

HISTORY  
OF  
HOWARD & CHICKASAW  
COUNTIES  
1883



CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARY



BOUGHT WITH THE INCOME  
OF THE SAGE ENDOWMENT  
FUND GIVEN IN 1891 BY  
HENRY WILLIAMS SAGE

[illegible]

## History of Chickasaw and Howard Counties



3 1924 028 913 858

**olin**

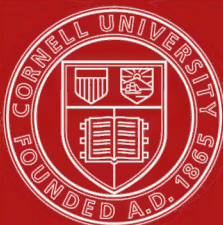
F

627

C5A37

1883





## Cornell University Library

The original of this book is in  
the Cornell University Library.

There are no known copyright restrictions in  
the United States on the use of the text.



HISTORY  
OF  
Chickasaw and Howard Counties  
IOWA.

BY W. E. ALEXANDER.

DECORAH, IOWA:  
WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
1883.

bc

CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARY

Ha



A 723649



# PREFACE.

---

The object of this work is to place upon record in a reliable manner, and in a permanent form what ever incidents of importance may have transpired, within the limits of Howard and Chickasaw counties, since their first settlement. While the publisher does not arrogate to himself a degree of accuracy beyond criticism, he hopes to be found measureably correct, in the compilation, and arrangement, of the almost immeasurable incidents that have been swallowed up in the past, and that enter so largely into the present of the community, in whose interest this volume is written.

Without the aid and assistance of the pioneers, or their immediate descendants, and numerous notes from their carefully written, and well preserved diaries, the task would have been far more arduous and difficult. To the patriarchs of the past, who have so favored us; as well as to the representative men of the present we tender our grateful acknowledgement. Among those we take especial pleasure in mentioning are J. H. Powers, Jos. F. Grawe, B. A. Billings, L. E. Smith, W. R. Mead and John E. Peck, whose retentive memories, and carefully preserved newspaper files and general records, have added largely to whatever of interest may be found in this volume.

The undertaking of the publisher completed, it only remains to tender to the people of Howard and Chickasaw counties in general, his obligations and acknowledgement, for the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to him and his representatives and agents, during the preparation of these annals, as well as for their liberal patronage, without which this history would have been left buried beneath the debris of time, unwritten and unprepared.

Respectfully,

W. E. ALEXANDER.



# HISTORY OF IOWA.

---

## DISCOVERY AND OCCUPATION.

The name Iowa is said to signify "The Beautiful Land," and was applied to this magnificent and fruitful region by its ancient owners, to express their appreciation of its superiority of climate, soil and location. Prior to 1803, the Mississippi River was the extreme western boundary of the United States. All the great Empire lying west of the "Father of Waters," from the Gulf of Mexico on the south, to British America on the north, and westward to the Pacific Ocean, was a Spanish province. A brief historical sketch of the discovery and occupation of this great empire by the Spanish and French governments will be a fitting introduction to the young and thriving state of Iowa, which, until the commencement of the present century, was a part of the Spanish possessions in America.

Early in the spring of 1542, Ferdinand DeSoto discovered the mouth of the Mississippi River at the mouth of the Washita. After the sudden death of DeSoto, in May, of the same year, his followers built a small vessel, and in July, 1543, descended the great river to the Gulf of Mexico.

In accordance with the usage of nations, under which title to the soil was claimed by right of discovery, Spain, having conquered Florida and discovered the Mississippi, claimed all the territory bordering on that river and the Gulf of Mexico. But it was also held by the European nations that, discovery gave title, that title must be perfected by actual possession and occupation. Although Spain claimed the territory by right of first discovery, she made no effort to occupy it; by no permanent settlement had she perfected and held her title, and therefore had forfeited it when, at a later period, the Lower Mississippi Valley was re-discovered and occupied by France.

The labors of the zealous French Jesuits of Canada in penetrating the unknown region of the West, commencing in 1611, form a history of no ordinary interest, but have no particular connection with the scope of the present work, until in the fall of 1665. Pierre Claude Allouez, who had entered Lake Superior in September and sailed along the southern coast in search of copper, had arrived at the great village of the Chippewas at Chegoincegon. Here a grand council of some ten or twelve of the principal Indian nations was held. The Pottawatomies of Lake Michigan, and Sacs and Foxes of the West, the Hurons from the North, the Illinois

from the South, and the Sioux from the land of prairie and wild rice, were all assembled there. The Illinois told the story of their ancient glory, and about the noble river on the banks of which they dwelt. The Sioux also told their white brother of the same great river, and Allouez promised to the assembled tribes the protection of the French nation against all their enemies, native or foreign.

The purpose of discovering the great river about which the Indian nations had given such glowing accounts, appears to have originated with Marquette, in 1669. In the year previous, he and Claude Dablon had established the Mission of St. Mary's, the oldest white settlement within the present limits of the state of Michigan. Marquette was delayed in the execution of his great undertaking, and spent the interval in studying the language and habits of the Illinois Indians, among whom he expected to travel.

About this time the French government had determined to extend the Dominion of France to the extreme western borders of Canada. Nicholas Perrott was sent as the agent of the government to propose a grand council of the Indian nation, at St. Mary's.

When Perrot reached Green Bay, he extended the invitation far and near; and, escorted by Pottawatomies, repaired on a mission of peace and friendship to the Miamis, who occupied the region about the present location of Chicago.

In May, 1671, a great council of Indians gathered at the Falls of St. Mary, from all parts of the northwest, from the head waters of the St. Lawrence, from the valley of the Mississippi and from the Red River of the North. Perrot met with them, and after grave consultation, formally announced to the assembled nations that their good French Father felt an abiding interest in their welfare, and had placed them all under the powerful protection of the French Government.

Marquette, during that same year had gathered at Point St. Ignace the remnants of one branch of the Hurons. This station, for a long series of years, was considered the key to the unknown West.

The time was now auspicious for the consummation of Marquette's grand project. The successful termination of Perrott's mission, and the general friendliness of the native tribes, rendered the contemplated expedition much less perilous. But it was not until 1673 that the intrepid and enthusiastic priest was finally ready to depart on his daring and perilous journey to lands never trod by white men. Having implored the blessing of God upon his undertaking, on the 13th day of May, 1673, with Joliet and five Canadian-French voyageurs, or boatmen, he left the mission on his daring journey. Ascending Green Bay and Fox River, these bold and enthusiastic pioneers of religion and discovery proceeded until they reached a Miami and Kickapoo village, where

Marquette was delighted to find a "beautiful cross planted in the middle of the town, ornamented with white skins, red girdles and bows and arrows, which these good people had offered to the Great Manitou, or God, to thank Him for the pity He had bestowed on them during the winter, in having given them abundant chase." This was the extreme point beyond which the explorations of the French missionaries had not then extended. He called together the principal men of the village, and informed them that his companion, Joliet, had been sent by the French Governor of Canada to discover new countries, to be added to the dominion of France; but that he, himself, had been sent by the Most High God, to carry the glorious religion of the Cross; and assured his wondering hearers that on this mission he had no fear of death, to which he knew he would be exposed on his perilous journey.

Obtaining the services of two Miami guides, to conduct his little band to the Wisconsin River, he left the hospitable Indians on the 10th of June. Conducting them across the portage, their Indian guides returned to their village, and the little party descended the Wisconsin, to the great river which had so long been so anxiously looked for, and boldly floated down its unknown waters.

On the 25th of June, the explorers discovered indications of Indians on the west bank of the river, and landed a little above the mouth of the river now known as Des Moines, and for the first time European trod the soil of Iowa. Leaving the Canadians to guard the canoe, Marquette and Joliet boldly followed the trail into the interior for fourteen miles (some authorities say six), to an Indian village situated on the banks of a river, and discovered two other villages, on the rising ground about a half a league distant. Their visit, while it created much astonishment, did not seem to be entirely unexpected, for there was a tradition or prophecy among the Indians that white visitors were to come to them. They were, therefore, received with great respect and hospitality, and were cordially tendered the calumet or pipe of peace. They were informed that this band was a part of the Illini nation, and that their village was called Monin-gou-ma or Moingona, which was the name of the river on it stood. This from its similarity of sound, Marquette corrupted into Des Moines (Monk's River) its present name.

Here the voyagers remained six days, learning much of the manners and customs of their new friends. The new religion they boldly preached, and the authority of the King of France they proclaimed were received without hostility or remonstrance by their savage entertainers. On their departure, they were accompanied to their canoes by the chiefs and hundreds of warriors. Marquette received from them the sacred calumet, the emblem of peace and safeguard among the nations, and re-embarked for the rest of their journey.



In 1682, LaSalle descended the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, and in the name of the King of France took formal possession of all the immense region watered by the great river and its tributaries from its source to its mouth, and named it Louisiana, in honor of his master, Louis XIV. At the close of the seventeenth century, France claimed, by right of discovery and occupancy, the whole valley of the Mississippi and its tributaries, including Texas, as far as the Rio del Norte.

In 1719, Phillipe Francis Renault arrived in Illinois with two hundred miners and artisans. The war between France and Spain at this time rendered it extremely probable that the Mississippi Valley might become the theater of Spanish hostilities against the French settlements; to prevent this, as well as to extend French claims, a chain of forts was begun, to keep open the connection between the mouth and the source of the Mississippi. Fort Orleans, high up the Missouri River, was built as an outpost in 1720.

The Mississippi scheme was at the zenith of its power and glory in January, 1720, but the gigantic bubble collapsed more suddenly than it had been inflated, and the company was declared hopelessly bankrupt in May following. France was impoverished by it, both private and public credit was overthrown, capitalists suddenly found themselves paupers, and labor was left without employment. The effect on the colony of Louisiana was very disastrous.

While this was going on in Lower Louisiana the region about the lakes was the theater of Indian hostilities, rendering the passage from Canada to Louisiana extremely dangerous for many years. The English had not only extended their Indian trade into the vicinity of the French settlement, but through their friends, the Iroquois, had gained a marked ascendancy over the Foxes, a fierce and powerful tribe, of Iroquois descent, whom they incited to hostilities against the French. The Foxes began their hostilities with the siege of Detroit, in 1712, a siege which continued for nineteen consecutive days, and although the expedition resulted in diminishing their numbers and humbling their pride, yet it was not until after several successive campaigns, embodying the best military resources of New France, had been directed against them, that they were finally defeated at the great battles of Butte des Morts, and on the Wisconsin river, and driven west in 1746.

The Company, having found that the cost of defending Louisiana exceeded the returns from its commerce, solicited leave to surrender the Mississippi wilderness to the home government. Accordingly, on the 10th of April, 1732, the jurisdiction and control over the commerce reverted to the crown of France. The Company had held possession of Louisiana fourteen years. In 1725, Bienville returned to assume command for the King.

A glance at a few of the old French settlement will show the progress made in portions of Louisiana during the early part of

the eighteenth century. As early as 1705, traders and hunters had penetrated the fertile regions of the Wabash, and from this region at that early date, fifteen thousand hides and skins had been collected and sent to Mobile for the European market.

In the year 1716, the French population on the Wabash kept up a lucrative commerce with Mobile by means of traders and voyageurs. The Ohio river was comparatively unknown.

In 1746, agriculture on the Wabash had attained to greater prosperity than in any of the French settlements besides, and in that year six hundred barrels of flour were manufactured and shipped to New Orleans, together with considerable quantities of hay, peltry, tallow and beeswax.

In the Illinois country, also, considerable settlement had been made, so that, in 1730, they embraced one hundred and forty French families, about six hundred "converted Indians," and many traders and voyageurs.

In 1753, the first actual conflict arose between Louisiana and the Atlantic colonies. From the earliest advent of the Jesuit fathers, up to the period of which we speak, the great ambition of the French had been, not alone to preserve their possessions in the West, but by every possible means to prevent the slightest attempt of the English, east of the mountains, to extend their settlement towards the Mississippi. France was resolved on retaining possession of the great territory which her missionaries had discovered and revealed to the world. French commandants had avowed their intention of seizing every Englishman within the Ohio Valley.

The colonies of Pennsylvania, New York and Virginia were most affected by the encroachments of France in the extension of her dominion; and particularly in the great scheme of uniting Canada with Louisiana. To carry out this purpose the French had taken possession of a tract of country claimed by Virginia, and had commenced a line of forts extending from the lakes to the Ohio River. Virginia was not only alive to her own interests, but attentive to the vast importance of an immediate and effectual resistance on the part of all the English colonies to the actual and contemplated encroachments of the French.

In 1753, Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia, sent George Washington, then a young man, just twenty-one, to demand of the French commandant "a reason for invading British Dominions while a solid peace subsisted." Washington met the French commandant Gardeur de St. Pierre, on the headwaters of the Alleghany, and having communicated to him the object of his journey, received the insolent answer that the French would not discuss the matter of right, but would make prisoners of every Englishman found trading on the Ohio and its waters. The country, he said, belonged to the French, by virtue of the discoveries of LaSalle, and they would not withdraw from it.

In January, 1754, Washington returned to Virginia, and made his report to the Governor and Council. Forces were at once raised, and Washington as Lieutenant Colonel, was dispatched at the head of a hundred and fifty men, to the Forks of the Ohio, with orders to "finish the fort already begun there by the Ohio company, and to make prisoners, kill or destroy all who interrupted the English settlements."

On his march through the forests of Western Pennsylvania, Washington, through the aid of friendly Indians, discovered the French concealed among the rocks, and as they ran to seize their arms, ordered his men to fire upon them, at the same time, with his own musket, setting the example. An action lasting about a quarter of an hour ensued; ten of the Frenchmen were killed, among them Jumonville, the commander of the party, and twenty one were made prisoners. The dead were scalped by the Indians, and the chief, bearing a tomahawk and a scalp, visited all the tribes of the Miamis, urging them to join the Six Nations and the English against the French. The French, however, were soon re-enforced and Col. Washington was compelled to return to Fort Necessity. Here, on the 3d day of July, DeVilliers invested the fort with 600 French troops and 100 Indians. On the 4th, Washington accepted terms of capitulation and the French garrison withdrew from the valley of the Ohio.

This attack of Washington upon Jumonville aroused the indignation of France, and war was formerly declared in May, 1756, and the "French and Indian war" devastated the colonies for several years. Montreal, Detroit, and all Canada were surrendered to the English, and on the 10th of February, 1763, by the treaty of Paris—which had been signed, though not formerly ratified by the respective governments, on the third of November, 1762—France relinquished to Great Britain all that portion of the province of Louisiana lying on the east side of the Mississippi, except the Island and town of New Orleans. On the same day that the treaty of Paris was signed, France, by a secret treaty, ceded to Spain all her possessions on the west side of the Mississippi, including the whole country to the headwaters of the Great River, and west to the Rocky Mountains, and the jurisdiction of France in America, which had lasted nearly a century, was ended.

At the close of the Revolutionary war, by the treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States, the English government ceded to the latter all the territory on the east side of the Mississippi River, and north of the thirty-first parallel of north latitude. At the same time Great Britain ceded to Spain all the Floridas, comprising all the territory east of the Mississippi and south of the southern limits of the United States.

At this time, therefore, the present State of Iowa was a part of the Spanish possessions in North America, as all the territory west



of the Mississippi River was under the dominion of Spain. That government also possessed all the territory of the Floridas east of the great river and south of the thirty-first parallel of north latitude. The Mississippi, therefore, so essential to the prosperity of the western portion of the United States, for the last three hundred miles of its course flowed wholly within the Spanish dominions, and that government claimed the exclusive right to use and control it below the southern boundary of the United States.

The free navigation of the Mississippi was a very important question during all the time that Louisiana remained a dependency of the Spanish Crown, and as the final settlement intimately affected the status of the then future state of Iowa, it will be interesting to trace its progress.

The people of the United States occupied and exercised jurisdiction over the entire eastern valley of the Mississippi, embracing all the country drained by its eastern tributaries; they had a natural right, according to the accepted international law, to follow these rivers to the sea, and to the use of the Mississippi River accordingly, as the great natural channel of commerce. The river was not only necessary but absolutely indispensable to the prosperity and growth of the western settlement then rapidly rising into commercial and political importance. They were situated in the heart of the great valley, and with wonderful expansive energies and accumulating resources, it was very evident that no power on earth could deprive them of the free use of the river below them, only while their numbers were insufficient to enable them to maintain their rights by force. Inevitably, therefore, immediately after the ratification of the treaty in 1785, the western people began to demand the free navigation of the Mississippi—not as a favor, but as a right. In 1786 both banks of the river, below the Ohio, were occupied by Spain, and military posts on the east bank enforced her power to exact heavy duties on all imports by way of the river for the Ohio region. Every boat descending the river was forced to land and submit to the arbitrary revenue exactions of Spanish authorities. Under the administration of Governor Miro, these rigorous exactions were somewhat relaxed from 1787 to 1790; but Spain held it as her right to make them. Taking advantage of the claim of the American people, that the Mississippi should be opened to them, in 1791, the Spanish Government concocted a scheme for the dismemberment of the Union. The plan was to induce the Western people to separate from the Eastern States by liberal land grants and extraordinary commercial privileges.

Spanish emissaries, among the people of Ohio and Kentucky, informed them that the Spanish Government would grant them favorable commercial privileges, provided they would secede from the Federal Government east of the mountains. The Spanish

Minister to the United States plainly declared to his confidential correspondent that, unless the Western people would declare their independence and refuse to remain in the Union, Spain was determined never to grant the free navigation of the Mississippi.

By the treaty of Madrid, October 20, 1795, however, Spain formally stipulated that the Mississippi River, from its source to the Gulf for its entire width, should be free to American trade and commerce and that the people of the United States should be permitted for three years to use the port of New Orleans as a port of deposit of their merchandise and produce, duty free.

In November, 1810, the United States Government received, through Rufus King, its Minister at the Court of St. James, a copy of the treaty between Spain and France, signed at Madrid, March 21, 1801, by which the cession of Louisiana to France made the previous autumn, was confirmed.

The change offered a favorable opportunity to secure the just rights of the United States, in relation to the free navigation of the Mississippi, and ended the attempt to dismember the Union by an effort to secure an independent government west of the Alleghany Mountains. On 7th day of January, 1803, the American House of Representatives adopted a resolution declaring their "unalterable determination to maintain the boundaries and the rights of navigation and commerce through the River Mississippi, as established by existing treaties."

In the same month President Jefferson nominated and the Senate confirmed Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe as Envoys Plenipotentiary to the Court of France, and Charles Pinckney and James Monroe to the Court of Spain, with plenty of power to negotiate treaties to effect to object the enunciated by the popular branch of the National Legislature. These envoys were instructed to secure, if possible, the cession of Florida and New Orleans to the United States, but it does not appear that Mr. Jefferson had any idea of purchasing that part of Louisiana lying on the west side of the Mississippi. In fact, on the 2d of March following the instructions were sent to our Ministers, containing a plan which expressly left to France "all her territory on the west side of the Mississippi." Had these instructions been followed, it might have been that there would not have been any State of Iowa or any other member of the glorious Union of States west of the Father of Waters.

In obedience to his instructions, however, Mr. Livingston broached this plan to M. Talleyrand, Napoleon's Prime Minister, when that courtly diplomatist quietly suggested to the American Minister that France might be willing to cede the whole French dominion in North America to the United States, and asked how much the Federal Government would be willing to give for it. Livingston intimated that twenty million francs might be a fair

price. Talleyrand thought that not enough, but asked the American to "think of it." A few days later, Napoleon, in an interview with Mr. Livingston, in effect informed the American Envoy that he had secured Louisiana in a contract with Spain for the purpose of turning it over to the United States for a mere nominal sum. He had been compelled to provide for the safety of that province by the treaty, and he was anxious to give the United States a magnificent bargain for a mere trifle. The price proposed was one hundred and twenty-five million francs. This was subsequently modified to fifteen million dollars, and on this basis a treaty was negotiated, and was signed on the 30th day of April, 1803.

This treaty was ratified by the Federal Government, and by act of Congress, approved October 31, 1803, the President of the United States was authorized to take possession of the territory and provide for a temporary government. Accordingly, on the 20th day of September following, on behalf of the President, Governor Clairborne and Gen. Wilkinson took possession of the Louisiana purchase, and raised the American flag over the newly acquired domain, at New Orleans. Spain, although it had by treaty ceded the province to France in 1801, still held quasi possession and at first objected to the transfer, but withdrew her opposition early in 1804.

By this treaty, thus successfully consummated, and the peaceable withdrawal of Spain, the then infant nation of the New World extended its dominion west of the Mississippi to the Pacific ocean, and north from the Gulf of Mexico to British America.

If the original design of Jefferson's administration had been accomplished, the United States would have acquired only that portion of the French territory lying east of the Mississippi River, and while the American people would thus have acquired the free navigation of that great river, all of the vast and fertile empire on the west, so rich in its agricultural and inexhaustible mineral resources, would have remained under the dominion of a foreign power. To Napoleon's desire to sell the whole of his North American possessions, and Livingston's act transcending his instructions which was acquiesced in after it was done, does Iowa owe her position as a part of the United States by the Louisiana purchase.

By authority of an act of Congress, approved March 26, 1804, the newly acquired territory was, on the first day of October following, divided: that part lying south of the thirty-third parallel of north latitude was called the territory of Orleans, and all north of that parallel the District of Louisiana, which was placed under the authority of the officers of Indian Territory, until July 4, 1805, when it was organized with territorial government of its own, and so remained until 1812, when the Territory of Orleans became

the State of Louisiana, and the name of the Territory of Louisiana was changed to Missouri. On the 4th of July, 1814, that part of the Missouri Territory comprising the present State of Arkansas, and the country to the westward was organized into the Arkansas Territory.

On the 2d of March, 1821, the State of Missouri, being a part of the territory of that name, was admitted to the Union. June 28, 1834, the territory west of the Mississippi River and north of Missouri, was made a part of the territory of Michigan; but two years later on the 4th of July, 1836, Wisconsin Territory was erected, embracing within its limits the present States of Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

By act of Congress, approved June 12, 1838, the

#### TERRITORY OF IOWA

was erected, comprising, in addition to the present State, much the larger part of Minnesota, and extending north to the boundary of the British possessions.

#### THE ORIGINAL OWNERS.

Having traced the early history of the great empire lying west of the Mississippi, of which the State of Iowa constitutes a part from the earliest discovery to the organization of the Territory of Iowa, it becomes necessary to give some history of the Indians of Iowa.

According to the policy of the European nations, possession perfected title to any territory. We have seen that the country west of the Mississippi was first discovered by the Spaniards, but afterwards, was visited and occupied by the French. It was ceded by France to Spain, and by Spain back to France again, and then was purchased and occupied by the United States. During all that time, it does not appear to have entered into the heads or hearts of the high contracting parties that the country they bought, sold and gave away was in the possession of a race of men, who, although savage, owned the vast domain before Columbus first crossed the Atlantic. Having purchased the territory the United States found it still in possession of its original owners, who had never been dispossessed; and it became necessary to purchase again what had already been bought before, or forcibly eject the occupants; therefore, the history of the Indian nations who occupied Iowa prior to and during its early settlement by the whites, becomes an important chapter in the history of the State, that cannot be omitted.

For more than one hundred years after Marquette and Joliet trod the virgin soil of Iowa, not a single settlement had been made or attempted; not even a trading post had been established. The whole country remained in the undisputed possession of the native tribes, who roamed at will over her beautiful and fertile prairies, hunted in her woods, fished in her streams, and often

poured out their life-blood in obstinately contested contests for supremacy. That this State so aptly styled "The Beautiful Land," had been the theater of numerous fierce and bloody struggles between rival nations, for possessions of the favored region, long before its settlement by civilized man, there is no room for doubt. In these savage wars, the weaker party whether aggressive or defensive, was either exterminated or driven from their ancient hunting grounds.

In 1673, when Marquette discovered Iowa, the Illini were a very powerful people, occupying a large portion of the State, but when the country was again visited by the whites, not a remnant of that once powerful tribe remained on the west side of the Mississippi, and Iowa was principally in the possession of the Sacs and Foxes, a war-like tribe which, originally two distinct nations, residing in New York and on the waters of the St. Lawrence, had gradually fought their way westward, and united, probably, after the Foxes had been driven out of the Fox River country, in 1846, and crossed the Mississippi. The death of Pontiac, a famous Sac chieftain, was made the pretext for war against the Illini, and a fierce and bloody struggle ensued, which continued until the Illinois were nearly destroyed and their hunting grounds possessed by their victorious foes. The Iowas also occupied a portion of the State for a time, in common with the Sacs, but they, too, were nearly destroyed by the Sacs and Foxes, and, in "The Beautiful Land," these natives met their equally war-like foes, the Northern Sioux, with whom they maintained a constant warfare for the possession of the country for many years.

When the United States came in possession of the great valley of the Mississippi, by the Louisiana purchase, the Sacs and Foxes and Iowas possessed the entire territory, now comprising the State of Iowa. The Sacs and Foxes, also occupied the most of the State of Illinois.

The Sacs had four principal villages, where most of them resided, viz.: Their largest and most important town—if an Indian village may be called such—and from which emanated most of the obstacles and difficulties encountered by the Government in the extinguishment of Indian titles to land in this region, was on Rock River, near Rock Island; another was on the east bank of the Mississippi, near the mouth of Henderson River; the third was at the head of the Des Moines Rapids, near the present site of Montrose, and the fourth was near the mouth of the Upper Iowa.

The Foxes had three principal villages, viz.: One on the west side of the Mississippi, six miles above the rapids of Rock River; another about twelve miles from the river, in the rear of the Dubuque lead mines, and the third on Turkey River.

The Iowas, at one time identified with the Sacs, of Rock River, had withdrawn from them and become a separate tribe. Their

principal village was on the Des Moines River, in Van Buren County, on the site where Iowaville now stands. Here the last great battle between the Sacs and Foxes and the Iowas was fought, in which Black Hawk, then a young man, commanded one division of the attacking forces.

The Sacs had a fierce conflict with the Winnebagoes, subdued them and took possession of their lands. Their village on Rock River, at one time, contained upward of sixty lodges, and was among the largest Indian villages on the continent. In 1825, the Secretary of War estimated the entire number of the Sacs and Foxes at 4,600 souls. Their villages was situated in the immediate vicinity of the upper rapids of the Mississippi, where the beautiful and flourishing towns of Rock Island and Davenport are now situated. The beautiful scenery of the island, the extensive prairies, dotted over with groves; the picturesque bluffs along the river banks, the rich and fertile soil, producing large crops of corn, squash and other vegetables, with little labor; the abundance of wild fruit, game, fish, and almost everything calculated to make it a delightful spot for an Indian village, which was found there, had made this place a favorite home of the Sacs, and secured for it the strong attachment and veneration of the whole nation.

North of the hunting grounds of the Sacs and Foxes, were those of the Sioux, a fierce and warlike nation, who often disputed possession with their rivals in savage and bloody warfare. The possessions of these tribes were mostly located in Minnesota, but extended over a portion of Northern and Western Iowa to the Missouri River. Their descent from the north upon the hunting grounds of Iowa frequently brought them into collision with the Sacs and Foxes; and after many a conflict and bloody struggle, a boundary line was established between them by the Government of the United States, in a treaty held at Prairie du Chien in 1825. But this, instead of settling the difficulties, caused them to quarrel all the more, in consequence of alleged trespasses upon each other's side of the line. These contests were kept up and became so unrelenting that, in 1830, Government bought of the respective tribes of the Sacs and Foxes, and the Sioux, a strip of land twenty miles in width, on both sides of the line, and thus throwing them forty miles a part by creating between them a "neutral ground," commanded them to cease their hostilities. Both the Sacs and Foxes and the Sioux, however, were allowed to fish and hunt on the ground unmolested, provided they did not interfere with each other on the United States territory. The Sacs and Foxes and the Sioux were deadly enemies, and neither let an opportunity to punish the other pass unimproved.

In April, 1852, a fight occurred between the Musquaka band of Sacs and Foxes and a band of Sioux, about six miles above An

gona, in Kossuth County, on the west side of the Des Moines River. The Sacs and Foxes were under the leadership Ko-ko-wah, a subordinate chief, and had gone up from their home in Tama County, by way of Clear Lake, to what was then the "neutral ground." At Clear Lake, Ko-ko-wah was informed that a party of Sioux were encamped on the west side of the East Fork of the Des Moines, and he determined to attack them. With sixty of his warriors, he started and arrived at a point on the east side of the river, about a mile above the Sioux encampment, in the night, and concealed themselves in a grove, where they were able to discover the position and strength of their hereditary foes. The next morning, after many of the Sioux braves had left their camp on hunting tours, the vindictive Sacs and Foxes crossed the river and suddenly attacked the camp. The conflict was desperate for a short time, but the advantage was with the assailants, and the Sioux were routed. Sixteen of them, including some of their women and children, were killed, and a boy 14 years old was captured. One of the Musquakas was shot in the breast by a squaw as they were rushing into the Sioux's camp. He started to run away, when the same brave squaw shot him through the body, at a distance of forty rods, and he fell dead. Three other Sac braves were killed. But few of the Sioux escaped. The victorious party hurriedly buried their own dead, leaving the dead Sioux above ground, and made their way home, with their captive, with all possible expedition.

#### PIKE'S EXPEDITION.

Very soon after the acquisition of Louisiana the United States Government adopted measures for the exploration of the new territory, having in view the conciliation of the numerous tribes of Indians by whom it was possessed, and, also, the selection of proper sites for the establishment of military posts and trading stations. The Army of the West, Gen. James Wilkinson, commanding, had its headquarters at St. Louis. From this post Captains Lewis Clarke, with a sufficient force were detailed to explore the unknown sources of the Missouri and Lieut Zebulon M. Pike to ascend to the head waters of the Mississippi. Lieut. Pike, with one Sergeant, two Corporals and seventeen privates, left the military camp, near St. Louis, in a keel-boat, with four month's rations on the 9th day of August, 1805. On the 20th of the same month, the expedition arrived within the present limit of Iowa, at the foot of the Des Moines Rapids, where Pike met William Ewing, who had just been appointed Indian agent at this point, a French interpreter and four chiefs and fifteen Sac and Fox warriors.

At the head of the rapids, where Montrose is now situated, Pike held a council with the Indians, in which he addressed them substantially as follows: "Your great Father, the President of



the United States, wished to be more intimately acquainted with the situation and wants of the different nations of red people in our newly acquired territory of Louisiana, and has ordered the General to send a number of his warriors in different direction to take them by the hand and such inquiries as might afford the satisfaction required." At the close of the council he presented the red men with some knives, whisky and tobacco.

Pursuing his way up the river; he arrived, on the 23d of August, at what is supposed, from his description, to be the site of the present city of Burlington, which he selected as the location of a military post. He describes the place as being "on a hill, about forty miles above the River de Moyne Rapids, on the west side of the river, in latitude about 41 degree 21 minutes north. The channel of the river runs on that shore; the hill in front is about sixty feet perpendicular; nearly level on top; four hundred yards in the rear is a small prairie fit for gardening, and immediately under the hill is a limestone spring, sufficient for the consumption of a whole regiment." In addition to this description, which corresponds to Burlington, the spot is laid down on his map at a bend in the river a short distance below the mouth of the Henderson, which pours its waters into the Mississippi from Illinois. The fort was built at Fort Madison, but from the distance, latitude, description and map furnished by Pike, it could not have been the place selected by him while all the circumstances corroborate the opinion that the place he selected was the spot where Burlington is now located, called by the early voyagers on the Mississippi, "Flint Hills."

On the 24th with one of his men, he went on shore on a hunting expedition, and following a stream which they supposed to be a part of the Mississippi, they were led away from their course. Owing to the intense heat and tall grass, his two favorite dogs, which he had taken with him, became exhausted and he left them on the prairie, supposing that they would follow him as soon as they should get rested, and went on to overtake his boat. Reaching the river, he waited some time for his canine friends, but they did not come, and as he deemed it inexpedient to detain the boat longer, two of his men volunteered to go in pursuit of them, and he continued on his way up the river, expecting that the two men would soon overtake him. They lost their way, however, and for six days were without food, except a few morsels gathered from the stream and might have perished had they not accidentally met a trader from St. Louis, who induced two Indians to take them up, the river and they over took the boat at Dubuque.

At Dubuque, Pike was cordially received by Julien Dubuque, a Frenchman, who held a mining claim under a grant from Spain. Dubuque had an old field piece and fired a salute in honor of the advent of the first Americans who had visited that part of the Territory. Dubuque, however, was not disposed to publish the

wealth of his mines, and the young and apparently inquisitive officer could obtain but little information from him.

After leaving this place, Pike pursued his way up the river, but as he passed beyond the limits of the present State of Iowa, a detailed history of his exploration on the upper water of the Mississippi more properly belongs to the history of another State.

It is sufficient to say that on the site of Fort Snelling, Minnesota, at the mouth of the Minnesota River, Pike held a council with the Sioux, September 23, and obtained from them a grant of one hundred thousand acres of land. On the 8th of January, 1806, Pike arrived at a trading post belonging to the Northwest Company, on Lake De Sable in latitude 47°. At this time the then powerful Northwest Company carried on their immense operations from Hudson's Bay to the St. Lawrence; up the river on both sides, along the Great Lakes to the head of Lake Superior, thence to the sources of the Red River of the North, and west to the Rocky Mountains, embracing within the scope of their operations the entire Territory of Iowa. After successfully accomplishing his mission, and performing a valuable service to Iowa and the whole Northwest, Pike returned to St. Louis, arriving there on the 30th day April, 1806.

#### INDIAN WARS.

The territory of Iowa, although it had been purchased by the United States, and was ostensibly in the possession of the Government, was still occupied by the Indians, who claimed title to the soil by right of ownership and possession. Before it could be open to settlement by the whites, it was indispensable that the Indian title should be extinguished, and the original owners removed. The accomplishment of this purpose required the expenditure of large sums of money and blood, and for a long series of years the frontier was disturbed by Indian wars, terminated repeatedly by treaty, only to be renewed by some act of oppression on the part of the whites or some violation of treaty stipulation,

As previously shown, at the time when the United States assumed the control of the country by virtue of the Louisiana purchase nearly the whole state was in possession of the Sacs and Foxes, a powerful and warlike nation, who were not disposed to submit without a struggle to what they considered the encroachments of the pale faces.

Among the most noted chiefs, and one whose restlessness and hatred of the Americans occasioned more trouble to the Government than any others of his tribe, was Black Hawk, who was born at the Sac village, on Rock river, in 1767. He was simply the chief of his own band of Sac warriors, but by his energy and ambition he became the leading spirit of the united nation of Sacs and Foxes, and one of the prominent figures in the history of the

country from 1803 until his death. In early manhood he attained some distinction as a fighting chief, having led campaigns against the Osages and other neighboring tribes. About the beginning of the present century he began to appear prominent in affairs on the Mississippi. Some historians have added to the statement "it does not appear that he was ever a great general, or possessed any of the qualification of a successful leader." If this was so his life was a marvel. How any man who had none of the qualification of a leader became so prominent as such, as he did, indicates either that he had some ability, or that his cotemporaries, both Indian and Anglo-Saxon, had less than he. He is said to have been the victim of a narrow prejudice and bitter ill-will against the Americans" but the impartial historian must admit that if he was the enemy of the Americans, it was certainly not without some reason.

It will be remembered that Spain did not give up possession of the country to France on its cession to the latter power, in 1801, but retained possession of it, and, by the authority of France, transferred it to the United States, in 1804. Black Hawk and his band were in St. Louis at the time, and were invited to be present and witness the ceremonies of the transfer, but he refused the invitation, and it is but just to say that this refusal was caused probably more from regret that the Indians were to be transferred from the jurisdiction of the Spanish authorities than from any special hatred toward the Americans. In his life he says: "I found many sad and gloomy faces because the United States were about to take possession of the town and country. Soon after the Americans came, I took my band and went to take leave of our Spanish father. The Americans came to see him also. Seeing them approach, we passed out of one door as they entered another, and immediately started in our canoes for our village, on Rock River, not liking the change any more than our friends appeared to at St. Louis. On arriving at our village, we gave the news that strange people had arrived at St. Louis, and that we should never see our Spanish father again. The information made all our people sorry."

On the 3d day of November, 1804, a treaty was concluded between William Henry Harrison, than Governor of Indiana Territory, on behalf of the United States, and five chiefs of the Sac and Fox nation, by which the latter, in consideration, of two thousand two hundred and thirty-four dollars' worth of goods then delivered, and a yearly annuity of one thousand dollars to be paid in goods at just cost, ceded to the United States all that land on the east side of the Mississippi, extending from a point opposite the Jefferson, in Missouri, to the Wisconsin River, embracing an area of over fifty-one millions of acres.

To this treaty Black Hawk always objected and always refused to consider it binding upon his people. He asserted that the chiefs

or braves who made it had no authority to relinquish the title of the nation to any of the lands they held or occupied; and, moreover, that they had been sent to St. Louis on quite a different errand, namely, to get one of their people released, who had been imprisoned at St. Louis for killing a white man.

The year following this treaty (1805), Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike came up the river for the purpose of holding friendly councils with the Indians and selecting sites for forts within the territory recently acquired from France by the United States. Lieutenant Pike seems to have been the first American whom Black Hawk ever met or had a personal interview with; and he was very much prepossessed in Pike's favor. He gives the following account of his visit to Rock Island:

"A boat came up the river with a young American chief and a small party of soldiers. We heard of them soon after they passed Salt River. Some of our young braves watched them every day, to see what sort of people he had on board. The boat at length arrived at Rock River, and the young chief came on shore with his interpreter, and made a speech and gave us some presents. We in turn presented them with meat and such other provisions as we had to spare. We were well pleased with the young chief. He gave us good advice, and said our American father would treat us well."

The events which soon followed Pike's expedition were the erection of Fort Edwards, at what is now Warsaw, Illinois, and Fort Madison, on the site of the present town of that name, the latter being the first fort erected in Iowa. These movements occasioned great uneasiness among the Indians. When work was commenced on Fort Edwards, a delegation from their nation, headed by some of their chiefs, went down to see what the Americans were doing, and had an interview with the commander; after which they returned home apparently satisfied. In like manner, when Fort Madison was being erected, they sent down another delegation from a council of the nation held at Rock River. According to Black Hawk's account, the American chief told them that he was building a house for a trader who was coming to sell them goods cheap, and that the soldiers were coming to keep him company—a statement which Black Hawk says they distrusted at the time, believing that the fort was an encroachment upon their rights, and designed to aid in getting their lands away from them.

It has been held by good American authorities, that the erection of Fort Madison at the point where it was located was a violation of the treaty of 1804. By the eleventh article of the treaty, the United States had a right to build a fort near the mouth of the Wisconsin River; by article six they had bound themselves "that if any citizens of the United States or any other white persons should form a settlement upon their lands, such intruders should forthwith be removed." Probably the authorities of the United

States did not regard the established of military posts as coming properly within the meaning of the term "settlement," as used in the treaty. At all events, they erected Fort Madison within the territory reserved to the Indians, who became very indignant. Not long after the fort was built, a party led by Black Hawk attempted its destruction. They sent spies to watch the movements of the garrison, who ascertained that the soldiers were in the habit of marching out of the fort every morning and evening for parade, and the plan of the party was to conceal themselves near the fort, and attack and surprise them when they were outside. On the morning of the proposed day of attack, five soldiers came out and were fired upon by the Indians, two of them being killed. The Indians were too hasty in their movements, for the regular drill had not yet commenced. However, they kept up the attack for several days, attempting the old Fox strategy of setting fire to the fort with blazing arrows; but finding their efforts unavailing they soon gave up and returned to Rock River.

When war was declared between the United States and Great Britain, 1812, Black Hawk and his band allied themselves with the British, partly because he was dazzled by their specious promises, and more probably because they had been deceived by the Americans. Black Hawk himself declared that they were "forced into the war by being deceived." He narrates the circumstances as follows: "Several of the chiefs and head men of the Sacs and Foxes were called upon to go to Washington to see their Great Father. On their return, they related what had been said and done. They said the Great Father wished them, in the event of a war taking place with England, not to interfere on either side, but to remain neutral. He did not want our help, but wished us to hunt and support our families, and live in peace. He said that British traders would not be permitted to come on the Mississippi to furnish us with goods, but that we should be supplied with an American trader. Our chiefs then told him that the British traders always gave them credit in the fall for guns, powder and goods, to enable us to hunt and clothe our families. He repeated that the traders at Fort Madison would have plenty of goods; that we should go there in the fall and he would supply us on credit, as the British traders had done."

Black Hawk seems to have accepted this proposition, and he and his people were very much pleased. Acting in good faith, they fitted out for their winter's hunt, and went to Fort Madison in high spirits to receive from the trader their outfit of supplies. But, after waiting some time, they were told by the trader that he would not trust them. It was in vain they pleaded the promise of their Great Father at Washington. The trader was inexorable; and, disappointed and crestfallen, they turned sadly toward their own village. "Few of us," says Black Hawk, "slept that night; all was gloom and discontent. In the morning a canoe was seen

ascending the river; it soon arrived, bearing an express, who brought intelligence that a British trader had landed at Rock Island, with two boats loaded with goods, and requested us to come up immediately, because he had good news for us, and a variety of presents. The express presented us with tobacco, pipes and wampum. The news ran through our camp like fire on a prairie. Our lodges were soon taken down, and all started for Rock Island. Here ended all hopes of our remaining at peace, having been forced into the war by being deceived.

He joined the British, who flattered him, styled him "General Black Hawk," decked him with medals, excited his jealousies against the Americans, and armed his band; but he met with defeat and disappointment, and soon abandoned the service and came home.

With all his skill and courage, Black Hawk was unable to lead all the Sacs and Foxes into hostilities to the United States. A portion of them, at the head of whom was Keokuk ("the Watchful Fox"), were disposed to abide by the treaty of 1804, and to cultivate friendly relations with the American people. Therefore, when Black Hawk and his band joined the fortunes of Great Britain, the rest of the nation remained neutral, and, for protection organized, with Keokuk for their chief. This divided the nation into the "War and Peace Party."

Black Hawk says he was informed, after he had gone to the war, that the nation, which had been reduced to so small a body of fighting men, were unable to defend themselves in case the Americans should attack them, and having all the old men and women and children belonging to warriors who had joined the British on their hands to provide for, a council was held, and it was agreed that Quash-quame (the Lance) and other chiefs, together with the old men, women and children, and such others as chose to accompany them, should go to St. Louis, and place themselves under the American chief stationed there. They accordingly went down and were received as the "friendly band" of the Sacs and Foxes, and were provided for and sent up the Missouri river. On Black Hawk's return from the British army, he says Keokuk was introduced to him as the war chief of the braves then in the village. He inquired how he had become chief, and was informed that their spies had seen a large armed force going toward Peoria, and fears were entertained of an attack upon the village; whereupon a council was held, which concluded to leave the village and cross over to the west side of the Mississippi.

Keokuk had been standing at the door of the lodge where the council was held, not being allowed to enter on account of never having killed an enemy, where he remained until Wa-co-me came out. Keokuk asked permission to speak in the council, which Wa-co-me obtained for him. Keokuk then addressed the chiefs; he remonstrated against the desertion of the village, their own

homes and the graves of their fathers; and offered to defend the village. The council consented that he should be their war chief. He marshaled his braves, sent out spies, and advanced on the trail leading to Peoria, but returned without seeing the enemy. The Americans did not disturb the village, and all were satisfied with the appointment of Keokuk.

Keokuk, like Black Hawk, was a descendant of the Sac branch of the nation, and was born on Rock river, in 1780. He was of a pacific disposition, but possessed the elements of true courage, and could fight, when occasion required, with a cool judgment and heroic energy. In his first battle he encountered and killed a Sioux, which placed him in the rank of warriors, and he was honored with a public feast, by his tribe, in commemoration of the event.

Keokuk has been described as an orator, entitled to rank with the most gifted of his race. In person he was tall, and of portly bearing; in his public speeches he displayed a commanding attitude and graceful gestures; he spoke rapidly, but his enunciation was clear, distinct and forcible; he culled his figures from the stores of nature, and based his arguments on skillful logic. Unfortunately for the reputation of Keokuk as an orator, among white people, he was never able to obtain an interpreter who could claim even a slight acquaintance with philosophy. With one exception only, his interpreters were unacquainted with the elements of their mother tongue. Of this serious hindrance to his fame, Keokuk was well aware, and retained Frank Labershure, who had received a rudimental education in the French and English languages, until the latter broke down by dissipation and died. But during the meridian of his career among the white people, he was compelled to submit his speeches for translation to uneducated men, whose range of thought fell below the flights of a gifted mind, and the fine imagery drawn from nature was beyond their power of re-production. He had sufficient knowledge of the English language to make him sensible of this bad rendering of his thought, and often a feeling of mortification at the bungling efforts was depicted on his countenance while speaking. The proper place to form a correct estimate of his ability as an orator was in the Indian council, where he addressed himself exclusively to those who understood his language, and witness the electrical effect of his eloquence upon his audience.

Keokuk seems to have possessed a more sober judgment, and to have had a more intelligent view of the great strength and resources of the United States, than his noted and restless cotemporary, Black Hawk. He knew from the first that the reckless war which Black Hawk and his band had determined to carry on could result in nothing but defeat and disaster, and used every argument against it. The large number of warriors whom he had dissuaded from following Black Hawk became, however, greatly

excited with the war spirit after Stillman's defeat, and but for the signal tact displayed by Keokuk on that occasion, would have forced him to submit to their wishes in joining the rest of the warriors in the field. A war-dance was held, and Keokuk took part in it, seeming to be moved with the current of the rising storm. When the dance was over, he called the council to prepare for war. He made a speech, in which he admitted the justice of their complaints against the Americans. To seek redress was a noble aspiration of their nature. The blood of their brethern had been shed by the white man, and the spirits of their braves, slain in battle, called loudly for vengeance. "I am your chief," he said, "and it is my duty to lead you to battle, if, after fully considering the matter, you are determined to go. But before you decide on taking this important step, it is wise to inquire into the chances of success. He then portrayed to them the great power of the United States, against whom they would have to contend, that their chances of success was utterly hopeless. "But," said he, "if you do determine to go upon the war-path, I will agree to lead you, on one condition, viz.: that before we go, we will kill all our old men and our wives and children, to save them from a lingering death of starvation, and that every one of us determine to leave our homes on the other side of the Mississippi."

This was a strong but truthful picture of the prospect before them, and was presented in such a forcible light as to cool their ardor, and cause them to abandon the rash undertaking.

But, during the war of 1832, it is now considered certain that small bands of Indians, from the west side of the Mississippi, made incursions into the white settlements, in the lead mining region, and committed some murders and depredations.

When peace was declared between the United States and England, Black Hawk was required to make peace with the former, and entered into a treaty at Portage des Sioux, September 14, 1815, but did not "touch the goose-quill to it until May 13, 1816, when he smoked the pipe of peace with the great white chief," at St. Louis. This treaty was a renewal of the treaty of 1804, but Black Hawk declared he had been deceived; that he did not know that by singing the treaty he was giving away his villiage. This weighed upon his mind, already soured by previous disappointment and the irresistible encroachments of the whites; and when a few years later, he and his people were driven from their possessions by the military, he determined to return to the home of his fathers.

It is also to be remarked that in 1816, by treaty with various tribes, the United States, relinquished to the Indians all the lands lying north of a line drawn from the southernmost point of Lake Michigan west to the Mississippi, except a reservation five leagues square, on the Mississippi River, supposed then to be sufficient to include all the mineral lands on an adjacent to Fever River, and one league square at the mouth of the Wisconsin River.



## THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

The immediate cause of the Indian outbreak in 1830 was the occupation of Black Hawk's village, on the Rock River, by the whites, during the absence of the chief and his braves on a hunting expedition, on the west side of the Mississippi. When they returned they found their wigwams occupied by white families, and their own women and children were shelterless on the banks of the river. The Indians were indignant, and determined to repossess their village at all hazards, and early in the spring of 1831 recrossed the Mississippi and menacingly took possession of their own cornfields and cabins. It may be well to remark here that it was expressly stipulated in the treaty of 1804, to which they attributed all their troubles, that the Indians should not be obliged to leave their lands until they were sold by the United States, and it does not appear that they occupied any lands other than those owned by the Government. If this was true, the Indians had good cause for indignation and complaint. But the whites, driven out in turn by the returning Indians, became so clamorous against what they termed the encroachments of the natives, that Gov. Reynolds, of Illinois, ordered Gen. Gaines to Rock Island with a military force to drive the Indians again from their homes to the west side of the Mississippi. Black Hawk says he did not intend to be provoked into war by anything less than the blood of some of his own people; in other words, that there would be no war unless it should be commenced by the pale faces. But it was said and probably thought by the military commanders along the frontier, that the Indians intended to unite in a general war against the whites, from Rock River to the Mexican borders. But it does not appear that the hardy frontiersmen themselves had any fears, for their experience had been that, when well treated, their Indian neighbors were not dangerous. Black Hawk and his band had done no more than to attempt to repossess the old homes of which they had been deprived in their absence. No blood had been shed. Black Hawk had his chiefs sent a flag of truce, and a new treaty was made, by which Black Hawk and his band agreed to remain forever on the Iowa side.

On the 6th day of April, 1832, Black Hawk, and his entire band, with their women and children, again recrossed the Mississippi River in, plain view of the garrison of Fort Armstrong, and went up the Rock River. Although this act was construed into an act of hostility by the military authorities, who declared that Black Hawk intended to recover his village, or the site where it stood, by force; yet it does not appear that he made any such attempt, nor did his appearance create any special alarm among the settlers. They knew that the Indians never went on the war-path encumbered with the old men, their women and their children.

The Galenian, printed in Galena, of May 2, 1832, says that

Black Hawk was invited by the Prophet, and had taken possession of a tract about forty miles up Rock river; but that he did not remain there long, but commenced his search up Rock river. Capt. W. B. Green, who served in Captain Stevenson's company of mounted rangers, says that "Black Hawk and his band crossed the river with no hostile intention, but that his band had had bad luck in hunting during the previous winter, were actually in a starving condition, and had come over to spend the summer with a friendly tribe on the headwaters of the Rock and Illinois rivers by invitation from their chief." Other old settlers, who all agree that Black Hawk had no idea of fighting, say that he came back to the west side expecting to negotiate another treaty, and get a new supply of provisions. The most reasonable explanation of this movement, which resulted so disastrously to Black Hawk and his starving people, is that, during the fall and winter of 1831-32, his people became greatly indebted to their favorite trader at Fort Armstrong (Rock Island), they had not been fortunate in hunting, and he was likely to lose heavily, as an Indian debt was outlawed in one year. If, therefore, the Indians could be induced to come over, and the fears of the military could be sufficiently aroused to pursue them, another treaty could be negotiated, and from the payments from the government the shrewd trader could get his pay. Just a week after Black Hawk crossed the river, on the 13th of April, 1832, George Davenport wrote to Gen. Atkinson: "I am informed that the British band of Sac Indians are determined to make war on the frontier settlements. \* \* \*

From every information that I have received, I am of the opinion that the intention of the British band of Sac Indians is to commit depredations on the inhabitants of the frontier." And yet, from the 6th day of April, until after Stillman's men commenced war by firing on the flag of truce from Black Hawk, no murders nor depredations were committed by the British band of Sac Indians.

It is not the purpose of this sketch to detail the incidents of the Black Hawk war of 1832, as it pertains rather to the history of the State of Illinois. It is sufficient to say that, after the disgraceful affair at Stillman's Run, Black Hawk concluded that the whites refusing to treat with him, were determined to exterminate his people, determined to return to the Iowa side of the Mississippi. He could not return by the way he came, for the army was behind him, an army, too, that would sternly refuse to recognize the white flag of peace. His only course was to make his way northward and reach the Mississippi, if possible, before the troops could overtake him, and this he did; but, before he could get his women and children across the Wisconsin, he was overtaken, and a battle ensued. Here, again, he sued for peace, and, through his trusty lieutenant, "the Prophet," the whites were plainly informed that the starving Indians did not wish to fight, but would return to the west side of the Mississippi, peaceably, if they could be per-

mitted to do so. No attention was paid to this second effort to negotiate peace, and, as soon as the supplies could be obtained the pursuit was resumed, the flying Indians were overtaken again eight miles before they reached the mouth of the Bad Axe, and the slaughter (it should not be dignified by the name of battle) commenced. Here, overcome by starvation and the victorious whites, his band was scattered, on the 2d day of August, 1832. Black Hawk escaped, but was brought into camp at Prairie du Chien by three Winnebagoes. He was confined in Jefferson barracks until the spring of 1833, when he was sent to Washington, arriving there April 22. On the 26th of April they were taken to Fortress Monroe, where they remained till the 4th of June, 1833, when orders were given for them to be liberated and returned to their own country. By orders of the president he was brought back through the principal eastern cities. Crowds flocked to see him all along the route, and he was very much flattered by the attention he received. He lived among his people on the Iowa river till that reservation was sold, in 1836, when, with the rest of the Sacs and Foxes, he removed to the Des Moines reservation, where he remained till his death, which occurred on the 3d of October, 1838.

#### INDIAN PURCHASES, RESERVES AND TREATIES.

At the close of the Black Hawk War, in 1832, a treaty was made, at a council held on the west bank of the Mississippi, where now stands the thriving city of Davenport, on grounds now occupied by the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad company on the 21st day of September, 1832. At this council, the United States were represented by Gen. Winfield Scott and Gov. Reynolds, of Illinois. Keokuk, Pash-a-pa-ho and some thirty other chiefs and warriors of the Sac and Fox nation were present. By this treaty, the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States a strip of land on the eastern border of Iowa, fifty miles wide, from the northern boundary of Missouri to the mouth of the Upper Iowa River, containing about six million acres. The western line of the purchase was parallel with the Mississippi. In consideration of this cession, the United States Government stipulated to pay annually to the confederated tribes, for thirty consecutive years, twenty thousand dollar in specie, and to pay the debts of the Indians at Rock Island, which had been accumulating for seventeen years, and amounted to fifty thousand dollars, due to Davenport & Farnham, Indian traders. The Government also generously donated to the Sac and Fox women and children, whose husbands and fathers had fallen in the Black Hawk war, thirty-five beef cattle, twelve bushels of salt, thirty barrels of pork, fifty barrels of flour and six thousand bushels of corn.

This territory is known as the "Black Hawk Purchase." Although it was not the first portion of Iowa ceded to the United

States by the Sacs and Foxes, it was the first opened to actual settlement by the tide of emigration that flowed across the Mississippi as soon as the Indian title was extinguished. The treaty was ratified February 13, 1833, and took effect on the 1st of June following, when the Indians quietly removed from the ceded territory, and this fertile and beautiful region was opened to white settlers.

By the terms of the treaty, out of the Black Hawk Purchase was reserved for the Sacs and Foxes 400 square miles of land situated on the Iowa River, and including within its limits Keokuk's village, on the right bank of that river. This tract was known as "Keokuk's Reserve," and was occupied by the Indians until 1836, when, by a treaty made in September between them and Gov. Dodge, of Wisconsin Territory, it was ceded to the United States. The council was held on the banks of the Mississippi, above Davenport, and was the largest assemblage of the kind ever held by the Sacs and Foxes to treat for the sale of lands. About one thousand of their chiefs and braves were present, and Keokuk was their leading spirit and principal speaker on the occasion. By the terms of the treaty, the Sacs and Foxes were removed to another reservation on the Des Moines River, where an agency was established for them at what is now the town of Agency City.

Besides the Keokuk Reserve the government gave out of the Black Hawk Purchase to Antoine Le Clair, interpreter, in fee simple, one section of land opposite Rock Island, and another at the head of the first rapids above the island, on the Iowa side. This was the first land title granted by the United States to an individual in Iowa.

Soon after the removal of Sacs and Foxes to their new reservation on the Des Moines River, Gen. Joseph M. Street was transferred from the agency of the Winnebagoes, at Prairie du Chein, to establish an agency among them. A farm was selected, on which the necessary buildings erected, including a comfortable farm house for the agent and his family, at the expense of the Indian Fund. A salaried agent was employed to superintend the farm and dispose of the crops. Two mills were erected, one on Soap Creek, and the other on Sugar Creek. The latter was soon swept away by a flood, but the former remained and did good service for many years. Connected with the agency were Joseph Smart and John Goodell, interpreters. The latter was interpreter for Hard Fish's band. Three of the Indian chiefs, Keokuk, Wapello and Appanoose, had each a large field improved, the two former on the right bank of the Des Moines, back from the river, in what is now Keokuk's Prairie, and the latter on the present site of the city of Ottumwa. Among the traders connected with the agency were the Messrs. Ewing, from Ohio, and Phelps

& Co., from Illinois, and also Mr. J. P. Eddy, who established his post at what is now the site of Eddyville.

The Indians at this agency became idle and listless in the absence of their natural and wonted excitements, and many of them plunged into dissipation. Keokuk himself became dissipated in the latter years of his life, and it has been reported that he died of delirium tremens after his removal with his tribe to Kansas.

In May, 1843, most of the Indians were removed up the Des Moines River, above the temporary line of Red Rock, having ceded the remnant of their lands in Iowa to the United States on the 21st of September, 1837, and on the 11th of October 1842. By the terms of the latter treaty, they held possession of the "New Purchase" till the Autumn of 1845, when the most of them were removed to their reservation in Kansas, the balance being removed in the Spring of 1846.

1. Treaty with the Sioux.—Made July 19, 1815: ratified December 16, 1815. This treaty was made at Portage des Sioux, between the Sioux of Minnesota and Upper Iowa and the United States, by William Clark and Ninian Edwards, Commissioners, and was merely a treaty of peace and friendship on the part of those Indians toward the United States at the close of the war of 1812.

2. Treaty with the Sacs.—A similar treaty of peace was made at Portage des Sioux, between the United States and the Sacs, by William Clark, Ninian Edwards and Auguste Choteau, on the 13th of September, 1815, and ratified at the same date as the above. In this, the treaty of 1804 was re-affirmed, and the Sacs here represented promised for themselves and their bands to keep entirely separate from the Sacs of Rock River, who, under Black Hawk, had joined the British in the war just then closed.

3. Treaty with the Foxes.—A separate treaty of peace was made with Foxes at Portage des Sioux by the same Commissioners on the 14th of September, 1815, and ratified the same as the above, wherein the Foxes re-affirmed the treaty at St. Louis, of November 3, 1804, and agreed to deliver up all their prisoners to the officer in command at Fort Clark now Peoria, Illinois.

4. Treaty with the Iowas.—A treaty of peace and mutual good will was made between the United States and the Iowa tribe of Indians, at Portage des Sioux, by the same Commissioners as above, on the 16th of September 1815, at the close of the war with Great Britain, and ratified at the same date as the others.

5. Treaty with the Sacs at Rock River.—Made at St. Louis on the 13th of May, 1816, between the United States and the Sacs of Rock River, by the Commissioners, William Clark, Ninian Edwards and Auguste Choteau, and ratified December 30, 1816. In this treaty, that of 1804 was re-established and confirmed by twenty-two chiefs and head men of the Sacs of Rock River, and

Black Hawk himself attached to it his signature, or, "as he said, "touched the goose quill."

6. Treaty of 1824.—On the 4th of August, 1824, a treaty was made between the United States and the Sacs and Foxes, in the city of Washington, by William Clark, Commissioner, wherein the Sac and Fox nation relinquished their title to all lands in Missouri, and that portion of the southeast corner of Iowa known as the "Hal-Breed Tract" was set off and reserved for the use of the half-breeds of the Sacs and Foxes, they holding title in the same manner as Indians. Ratified January 18, 1825.

7. Treaty of August 19, 1825.—At this date a treaty was made by William Clark and Lewis Cass, at Prairie du Chien, between the United States and the Chippewas, Sacs and Foxes, Menomonees, Winnebagoes and a portion of the Ottawas and Pottawatomies. In this treaty, in order to make peace between the contending tribes as to the limits of their respective hunting grounds in Iowa, it was agreed that the United States Government should run a boundary line between the Sioux, on the north, and the Sacs and Foxes, on south, as follows:

Commencing at the mouth of the Upper Iowa River, on, the west bank of the Mississippi, and ascending said Iowa River to its west fork; thence up to the fork to its source; thence crossing the fork of Red Cedar River in a direct line to the second or upper fork of the Des Moines River; thence in a direct line to the lower fork of the Calumet River, and down that river to its junction with the Missouri River.

8. Treaty of 1830.—On the 15th of July, 1830, the confederate tribes of the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States a strip of country lying south of the above line, twenty miles in width and extending along the line aforesaid from the Mississippi to the Des Moines River. The Sioux also, whose possessions were north of the line, ceded to the Government, in the same treaty, a like strip on the north side of the boundary. Thus the United States, at the ratification of this treaty, February 24, 1831, came into possession of a portion of Iowa forty miles wide, extending along the Clark and Cass line of 1825, from the Mississippi to the Des Moines River. This territory was known as the "Neutral Ground" and the tribes on either side of the line were allowed to fish and hunt on it unmolested till it was made a Winnebago reservation, and the Winnebagoes were removed to it in 1841.

9. Treaty with the Sacs and Foxes and other Tribes.—At the same time of the above treaty respecting the "Neutral Ground" (July 15, 1830), the Sacs and Foxes, Western Sioux, Omahas, Iowas and Missouris ceded to the United States a portion of the western slope of Iowa, the boundaries of which were defined as follows:

Beginning at the upper fork of the Des Moines River, and passing the sources of the Little Sioux and Floyd Rivers, to the

fork of the first creek that falls into the Big Sioux, or Calumet, on the east side; thence down said creek and the Calumet River to the Missouri River; thence down said Missouri River to the Missouri State line above the Kansas; thence along said line to the northwest corner of said State; thence to the high lands between the waters falling into the Missouri and Des Moines, passing to said high lands along the dividing ridge between the forks of the Grand River; thence along said high lands or ridge separating the waters of the Missouri from those of the Des Moines, to a point opposite the source of the Boyer River, and thence in a direct line to the upper fork of the Des Moines, the place of beginning.

It was understood that the lands ceded and relinquished by this treaty were to be assigned and allotted, under the direction of the President of the United States, to the tribes then living thereon, or to such other tribes as the President might locate thereon, for hunting and other purposes. In consideration of three tracts of land ceded in this treaty, the United States agreed to pay to the Sacs three thousand dollars; to the Foxes, three thousand dollars; to the Sioux two thousand dollars; to the Yankton and Santee bands of Sioux, three thousands dollars; to the Omahas, two thousand five hundred dollars; and to the Otoes and Missouris, two thousand five hundred dollars—to be paid annually for ten successive years. In addition to these annuities, the Government agreed to furnish some of the tribes with blacksmiths and agricultural implements to the amount of two hundred dollars, at the expense of the United States, and to set apart three thousand dollars annually for the education of the children of these tribes. It does not appear that any fort was erected in this territory prior to the erection of Fort Atkinson on the Neutral Ground, in 1840-1.

This treaty was made by William Clark, Superintendent of Indian affairs, and Col. Willoughby Mor an, of the United States First Infantry, and came into effect by proclamation, February 24, 1831.

### SPANISH GRANTS.

While the territory now embraced in the State of Iowa was under Spanish rule as a part of its province of Louisiana, certain claims to and grants of land were made by the Spanish authorities, with which, in addition to the extinguishment of Indian titles, the United States, had to deal. It is proper that these should be briefly reviewed:

Dubuque.—On the 22d day of September, 1788, Julien Dubuque, a Frenchman, from Prairie du Chien, obtained from the Foxes a cession or lease of lands on the Mississippi River for mining purposes, on the site of the present city of Dubuque. Lead had been discovered here eight years before, in 1780, by the wife of Peosta

Fox, a warrior, and Dubuque's claim embraced nearly all the lead bearing lands in that vicinity. He immediately took possession of his claim and commenced mining, at the same time making a settlement. The place became known as the "Spanish Miners," or, more commonly, "Dubuque's Lead Mines."

In 1796, Dubuque filed a petition with Baron de Carondelet, the Spanish Governor of Louisiana, asking that the tract ceded to him by the Indians might be granted to him by patent from the Spanish Government. In this petition Dubuque rather indefinitely set forth the boundaries of his claim as "about seven leagues along the Mississippi River, and three leagues in width from the river," intending to include, as is supposed, the river front between the Little Maquoketa and the Tete des Mertz Rivers, embracing more than twenty thousand acres. Carondelet granted the prayer of the petition, and the grant was subsequently confirmed by the Board of Land Commissioners of Louisiana.

In October, 1804, Dubuque transferred the larger part of his claim to Auguste Choteau, of St. Louis, and on the 17th of May, 1805, he and Choteau jointly filed their claims with the Board of Commissioners. On the 20th of September, 1806, the Board decided in their favor, pronouncing the claim to be a regular Spanish grant, made and completed prior to the 1st day of October, 1800, only one member, J. B. C. Lucas, dissenting.

Dubuque died March 24, 1810. The Indians, understanding that the claim of Dubuque under their former act of cession was only a permit to occupy the tract and work the mines during his life, and that at his death they reverted to them took possession and continued mining operations, and were sustained by the military authority of the United States, notwithstanding the decision of the Commissioners. When the Black Hawk purchase was consummated, the Dubuque claim thus held by the Indians was absorbed by the United States, as the Sacs and Foxes made no reservation of it in the treaty of 1832.

The heirs of Choteau, however, were not disposed to relinquish their claim without a struggle. Late in 1832, they employed an agent to look after their interests, and authorized him to lease the right to dig lead on the lands. The miners who commenced work under this agent were compelled by the military to abandon their operations, and one of the claimants, went to Galena to institute legal proceedings, but found no court of competent jurisdiction, although he did bring an action for the recovery of a quantity of lead dug at Dubuque, for the purpose of testing the title. Being unable to identify the lead, however, he was non-suited.

By act of Congress, approved July 2, 1836, the town of Dubuque was surveyed and platted. After lots had been sold and occupied by the purchasers, Henry Choteau brought an action of ejectment



against Patrick Malony, who held land in Dubuque under a patent from the United States, for the recovery of seven undivided eighth parts of the Dubuque claim, as purchased by Auguste Choteau in 1804. The case was tried in the District Court of the United States for the District of Iowa, and was decided adversely to the plaintiff. The case was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States on a writ of error, when it was heard at the December term, 1853, and the decision of the lower court was affirmed, the court holding that the permit from Carondelet was merely a lease, or permit to work the mines; that Dubuque asked, and the Governor of Louisiana granted, nothing more than the "peaceable possession of certain lands obtained from the Indians; that Carondelet had no legal authority to make such a grant as claimed, and that, even if he had, this was but an "in choate and imperfect title."

Girard.—In 1795, the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Louisiana granted to Basil Giard five thousand eight hundred and sixty acres of land, in what is now Clayton County, known as the "Girard Tract." He occupied the land during the time that Iowa passed from Spain to France, and from France to the United States, in consideration of which the Federal Government granted a patent of the same to Girard in his own right. His heirs sold the whole tract to James H. Lockwood and Thomas P. Burnett, of Prairie du Chien, for three hundred dollars.

Honori.—March 30, 1799, Zenon Trudeau, acting Lieutenant Governor of Upper Louisiana, granted to Louis Honori a tract of land on the site of the present town of Montrose, as follows: "It is permitted to Mr. Louis (Fesson) Honori, or Louis Honore Fesson, to establish himself at the head of the rapids of the River Des Moines, and his establishment once formed, notice of it shall be given to the Governor General, in order to obtain for him a commission of a space sufficient to give value to such establishment, and at the same time to render it useful to the commerce of the peltries of this country, to watch the Indians and keep them in the fidelity which they owe to His Majesty."

Honori took immediate possession of his claim, which he retained until 1805. While trading with the natives he became indebted to Joseph Robedoux, who obtained an execution on which the property was sold May 13, 1803, and was purchased by the creditor. In these proceedings the property was described as being "about six leagues above the River Des Moines." Robedoux died soon after he purchased the property. Auguste Choteau, his executor, disposed of the Honori Tract to Thomas F. Reddeck, in April, 1805, up to which time Honori continued to occupy it. The grant, as made by the Spanish Government, was a league square, but only one mile square was confirmed by the United States. After the half-breeds sold their lands in which the Honori grant

was included, various claimants resorted to litigation in attempts to invalidate the title of the Reddeck heirs, but it was finally confirmed by a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in 1839, and is the oldest legal title to any land in the State of Iowa.

### THALF-REEED TRACR.

Before any permanent settlement had been made in the Territory of Iowa, white adventurers, trappers and traders, many of whom were scattered along the Mississippi and its tributaries, as agents and employes of the American Fur Company, intermarried with the females of Sac and Fox Indians, producing a race of half-breeds, whose number was never definitely ascertained. There were some respectable and excellent people among them, children of men of some refinement and education. For instance: Dr. Muir, a gentleman educated at Edinburg, Scotland, a surgeon in the United States Army, stationed at a military post located on the present site of Warsaw, married an Indian woman and reared his family of three daughters in the city of Keokuk. Other examples might be cited, but they are probably exceptions to the general rule, and the race is now nearly or quite extinct in Iowa.

A treaty was made at Washington, August 4, 1824, between the Sacs and Foxes and the United State, by which that portion of Lee County was reserved to the half-breeds of those tribes, and which was afterwards known as "The Half-Breed Tract." This reservation is the triangular piece of land, containing about 119,000 acres, lying between the Mississippi and Des Moines Rivers. It is bounded on the north by the prolongtion of the northern line Missouri. This line was intended to be a straight one, running due east, which would have caused it to strike the Mississippi River at or below Montrose; but the surveyor who ran it took no notice of the change of the variation of the needle as he proceeded eastward, and, in consequence, the line he run was bent; deviating more and more to the northward of a direct line as he approached the Mississippi, so it struck that river at the lower edge of the town of Fort Madison. "This erroneous line," says Judge Mason, "has been acquiesced in as well in fixing the northern limit of the Half-Breed Tract as in determining the northern boundary line of the State of Missouri." The line thus run included in the reservation a portion of the lower part of the city of Fort Madison, and all of the present townships of Van Buren, Charleston, Jefferson, Des Moines, Montrose and Jackson.

Under the treaty of 1824, the half-breeds had the right to occupy the soil, but could not convey it, the reversion being reserved

to the United States. But on the 30th day of January, 1834, by act of Congress, this reversionary right was relinquished, and the half-breeds acquired the lands in fee simple. This was no sooner done than a horde of speculators rushed in to buy land of the half-breed owners, and in many instances, a gun, a blanket, a pony or a few quarts of whisky was sufficient for the purchase of large estates. There was a deal of sharp practice on both sides; Indians would often claim ownship of land by virtue of being half-breeds, and had no difficulty in proving their mixed blood by the Indians, and they would then cheat the speculators by selling land to which they had no rightful title. On the other hand, speculators often claimed land in which they had no ownership. It was diamond cut diamond, until at last things became badly mixed. There was no authorized surveys and no boundary lines to claims, and, as a natural result, numerous conflicts and quarrels ensued.

To settle these difficulties, to decide the validity of claims or sell them for the benefit of the real owners, by act of the Legislature of Wisconsin Territory, approved January 16, 1838, Edward Johnstone, Thomas S. Wilson and David Brigham were appointed Commissioners, and clothed with power to effect these objects. The act provided that these Commissioners should be paid six dollars a day each. The commission entered upon its duties and continued until the next session of the Legislature, when the act creating it was repealed, invalidating all that had been done and depriving the Commissioners of their pay. The repalling act, however, authorized the Commissioners to commence action against the owners of the Half-Breed Tract, to receive pay for their services in the District Court of Lee County. Two judgments were obtained, and on execution the whole of the tract was sold to Hugh T. Reid, the Sheriff executing the deed. Mr. Reid sold portions of it to various parties, but his own title was questioned, and he became involved in litigation. Decisions in favor of Reid and those holding under him were made by both District and Supreme Court; but in December, 1850, these decisions were finally reversed by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Joseph Webster, plaintiff in error, vs. Hugh T. Reid and the judgment titles failed. About nine years before the "judgement titles" were finally abrogated as above, another class of titles were brought into competition with them, and in the conflict between the two, the final decision was obtained. These were the titles based on the "decree of partion" issued by the United States District

Court for the Territory of Iowa, on the 8th of May, 1841, and certified to by the Clerk on the 2d day of June of that year. Edward Johnstone and Hugh T. Reid, then law partners at Fort Madison, filed the petition for the decree in behalf of the St. Louis claimants of half-breed lands. Francis S. Key, author of the *Star Spangled Banner*, who was then attorney for the New York Land Company, which held heavy interest in these lands, took a leading part in the measure, and drew up the document in which it was presented to the court. Judge Charles Mason, of Burlington, presided. The plan of partition divided the tract into one hundred and one shares, and arranged that each claimant should draw his proportion by lot, and should abide the result, whatever it might be. The arrangement was entered into, the lots drawn, and the plat of the same filed in the Recorder's office, October 6, 1841. Upon this basis the titles to land in the Half-Breed Tract are now held.

### EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

The first permanent settlement by the whites within the limits of Iowa was made by Julien Dubuque, in 1788, when, with a small party of miners, he settled on the site of the city that now bears his name, where he lived until his death, in 1810. Louis Honori settled on the site of the present town of Montrose, probably in 1799, and resided there until 1805, when his property passed into other hands. Of the Girard settlement, opposite *Prairie du Chien*, little is known, except that it was occupied by some parties prior to the commencement of the present century, and contained three cabins in 1805. Indian traders, although not strictly to be considered settlers, had established themselves at various points at an early date. A Mr. Johnson, Agent of the American Fur Company, had a trading post below Burlington, where he carried on traffic with the Indians some time before the United States possessed the country. In 1820, Le Moliese, a French trader, had a station at what is now Sandusky six miles above Keokuk, in Lee County. In 1829, Dr. Isaac Gallaud made a settlement on the Lower Rapids, at what is now Nashville.

The first settlement in Lee county was made in 1820, by Dr. Samuel C. Muir, a surgeon in the United States army, who had been stationed at Fort Edwards, now Warsaw, Ill., and who built a cabin where the city of Keokuk now stands.

Messrs. Reynolds & Culver, who had leased Dr. Muir's claim at Keokuk, subsequently employed as their agent Mr. Moses Stillwell, who arrived with his family in 1828, and took possession of Muir's cabin. His brothers-in-law, Amos and Valencourt Van Ansdal came with him and settled near.

His daughter, Margaret Stillwell (afterward Mrs. Ford), was born in 1831, at the foot of the rapids, called by the Indians *Puch-a-she-tuck*, where Keokuk now stands. She was probably the first white American child born in Iowa.

In 1831, Mr. Johnson, agent of the American Fur Company, who had a station at the foot of the rapids, removed to another location, and Dr. Muir having returned from Galena, he and Isaac R. Campbell took the place and buildings vacated by the Company, and carried on trade with the Indians and half-breeds. Campbell, who had first visited and traveled through the southern part of Iowa, in 1821, was an enterprising settler, and besides trading with the natives, carried on a farm and kept a tavern.

Dr. Muir died of cholera in 1832.

In 1830, James L. and Lucius H. Langworthy, brothers and natives of Vermont, visited the Territory for the purpose of working the lead mines at Dubuque. They had been engaged in lead mining at Galena, Illinois, the former as early as 1824. The lead mines in the Dubuque region were an object of great interest to the miners about Galena, for they were known to be rich in lead ore. To explore these mines and to obtain permission to work them was therefore eminently desirable.

In 1829, James L. Langworthy resolved to visit the Dubuque mines. Crossing the Mississippi at a point now known as Dunleith in a canoe, and swimming his horse by his side, he landed on the spot now known as Jones Street Levee. Before him spread out a beautiful prairie, on which the city of Dubuque now stands. Two miles south, at the mouth of Catfish Creek, was a village of Sacs and Foxes. Thither Mr. Langworthy proceeded, and was well received by the natives. He endeavored to obtain permission from them to mine in their hills, but this they refused. He, however, succeeded in gaining the confidence of the chief to such an extent as to be allowed to travel in the interior for three weeks and explore the country. He employed two young Indians as guides, and traversed in different directions the whole region lying between the Maquoketa and Turkey Rivers. He returned to the village, secured the good will of the Indians, and returning to Galena, formed plans for future operations, to be executed as soon as circumstances would permit.

In 1830, with his brother, Lucius H., and others, having obtained the consent of the Indians, Mr. Langworthy crossed the Mississippi and commenced mining in the vicinity around Dubuque.

At this time, the lands were not in the actual possession of the United States. Although they had been purchased from France, the Indian title had not been extinguished, and these adventurous persons were beyond the limits of any State or Territorial government. The first settlers were therefore obliged to be their own law-makers, and to agree to such regulations as the exigencies of the case demanded. The first act resembling civil legislation within the limits of the present State of Iowa was done by the miners at this point, in June, 1830. They met on the bank of the river, by the side of an old cottonwood drift log, at what is now

the Jones Street Levee, Dubuque, and elected a committee, consisting of J. L. Langworthy, H. F. Lander, James McPhetres, Samuel Scales, and E. M. Wren. This may be called the first Legislature in Iowa, the members of which gathered around that old cottonwood log, and agreed to and reported the following, written by Mr. Langworthy, on a half-sheet of coarse, unruled paper, the old log being the writing desk:

We, a Committee, having been chosen to draft certain rules and regulations (laws) by which we, as miners, will be governed, and having duly considered the subject, do unanimously agree that we will be governed by the regulations on the east side of the Mississippi River,\* with the following exceptions, to wit:

ARTICLE I. That each and every man shall hold 200 yards square of ground by working said ground one day in six.

ARTICLE II. We further agree that there shall be chosen, by the majority of the miners present, a person who shall hold this article, and who shall grant letters of arbitration on application having been made, and that said letters of arbitration shall be obligatory on the parties so applying.

The report was accepted by the miners present, who elected Dr. Jarote, in accordance with Article 2. Here, then, we have in 1830, a primitive Legislature elected by the people, the law drafted by it being submitted to the people for approval, and under it Dr. Jarote was elected first Governor within the limits of the present State of Iowa. And it is to be said that the laws thus enacted were as promptly obeyed, and the acts of the executive officer thus elected as duly respected, as any have been since.

The miners who had thus erected an independent government of their own on the west side of the Mississippi River, continued to work successfully for a long time, and the new settlement attracted considerable attention. But the west side of the Mississippi belonged to the Sac and Fox Indians, and the Government in order to preserve peace on the frontier, as well as to protect the Indians in their rights under the treaty, ordered the settlers not only to stop mining, but to remove from the Indian territory. They were simply intruders. The execution of this order was entrusted to Col. Zachary Taylor, then in command of the military post at Prairie du Chien, who, early in July, sent an officer to the miners with orders to forbid settlement, and to command the miners to remove within ten days to the east side of the Mississippi, or they would be driven off by armed force. The miners, however, were reluctant about leaving the rich "leads" they had already discovered and opened, and were not disposed to obey the order to remove with any considerable degree of alacrity. In due time, Col. Taylor dispatched a detachment of troops to enforce his order. The miners, anticipating their arrival, had, excepting three, recrossed the river, and from the east bank saw the troops land on the western shore. The three who had lingered a little

---

\*Established by the Superintendent of U. S. Lead Mines at Fever River.

too long were, however, permitted to make their escape unmolested. From this time a military force was stationed at Dubuque to prevent the settlers from returning, until June, 1832. The Indians returned, and were encouraged to operate the rich mines opened by the late white occupants.

In June 1832, the troops were ordered to the east side to assist in the annihilation of the very Indians whose rights they had been protecting on the west side. Immediately after the close of the Black Hawk war, and the negotiations of the treaty in September, 1832, by which the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States the tract known as the "Black Hawk Purchase," the settlers, supposing that now they had a right to re-enter the Territory, returned and took possession of their claims, built cabins, erected furnaces, and prepared large quantities of lead for market. Dubuque was becoming a noted place on the river, but the prospects of the hardy and enterprising settlers and miners were again ruthlessly interfered with by the government, on the ground that the treaty with the Indians would not go into force until June 1, 1833, although they had withdrawn from the vicinity of the settlement. Col. Taylor was again ordered by the War Department to remove the miners, and in January, 1833, troops were again sent from Prairie du Chien to Dubuque for that purpose. This was a serious and perhaps unnecessary hardship imposed upon the settlers. They were compelled to abandon their cabins and homes in midwinter. It must be now said, simply that "red tape" should be respected. The purchase had been made, the treaty ratified, or was sure to be; the Indians had retired, and, after the lapse of nearly fifty years, no very satisfactory reason for this rigorous action of the Government can be given.

But the orders had been given, and there was no alternative but to obey. Many of the settlers recrossed the river and did not return; a few, however, removed to an island near the east bank of the river, built rude cabins of poles, in which to store their lead until spring, when they could float the fruits of their labor to St. Louis for sale, and where they could remain until the treaty went into force, when they could return. Among these were James L. Langworthy, and his brother Lucius, who had on hand about three hundred thousand pounds of lead.

Lieut. Covington, who had been placed in command at Dubuque by Col. Taylor, ordered some of the cabins of the settlers to be torn down, and wagons and other property to be destroyed. This wanton and inexcusable action on the part of a subordinate clothed with a little brief authority was sternly rebuked by Col. Taylor, and Covington was superseded by Lieut. Geo. Wilson, who pursued a just and friendly course with the pioneers, who were only waiting for the time when they could repossess their claims.

June 1, 1833, the treaty formally went into effect, the troops were withdrawn, and the Langworthy brothers and a few others at

once returned and resumed possession of their home claims and mineral prospects, and from this time the first permanent settlement of this portion of Iowa must date. Mr. John P. Sheldon was appointed Superintendent of the mines by the Government, and a system of permits to miners and licenses to smelters was adopted, similar to that which had been in operation at Galena, since 1825, under Lieut. Martin Thomas and Capt. Thomas C. Legate. Substantially the primitive law enacted by the miners assembled around that old cottonwood drift log in 1830 was adopted and enforced by the United States Government, except that miners were required to sell their mineral to licensed smelters, and the smelter was required to give bonds for the payment of six per cent. of all lead manufactured to the Government. This was the same rule adopted in the United States mines on Fever River in Illinois, except that, until 1830, the Illinois miners were compelled to pay ten per cent tax. This tax upon the miners created much dissatisfaction among the miners on the west side as it had on the east side of the Mississippi. They thought they had suffered hardships and privations enough in opening the way for civilization without being subjected to the imposition of an odious government tax upon their means of subsistence, when the Federal Government could better afford to aid than to extort from them. The measure soon became unpopular. It was difficult to collect the taxes, and the whole system was abolished in about ten years.

During 1883, after the Indian title was fully extinguished, about five hundred people arrived at the mining district, about one hundred and fifty of them from Galena.

In the same year Mr. Langworthy assisted in building the first school house in Iowa, and thus was formed the nucleus of the now populous and thriving city of Dubuque. Mr. Langworthy lived to see the naked prairie on which he first landed become the site of a city of fifteen thousand inhabitants, the small school house which he aided in constructing replaced by three substantial edifices, wherein two thousand children were being trained, churches erected in every part of the city, and railroads connecting the wilderness which he first explored with all the eastern world. He died suddenly on the 13th of March, 1865, while on a trip over the Dubuque & Southwestern Railroad, at Monticello, and the evening train brought news of his death and his remains.

Lucius H. Langworthy, his brother, was one of the most worthy, gifted and influential of the old settlers of this section of Iowa. He died, greatly lamented by many friends, in June, 1865.

The name Dubuque was given to the settlement by miners at a meeting held in 1834.

In 1832, Captain James White made a claim on the present site of Montrose. In 1834 a military post was established at this point



and a garrison of cavalry was stationed here, under the command of Col. Stephen W. Kearney. The soldiers were removed from this post to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1837.

During the same year, 1832, soon after the close of the Black Hawk war, Zachariah Hawkins, Benjamin Jennings, Aaron White, Augustine Horton, Samuel Gooch, Daniel Thompson and Peter Williams made claims at Fort Madison. In 1833, these claims were purchased by John and Nathaniel Knapp, upon which, in 1835, they laid out the town. The next summer, lots were sold. The town was subsequently re-surveyed and platted by the United States Government.

At the close of the Black Hawk War, parties who had been impatiently looking across upon "Flint Hills," now Burlington, came over from Illinois and made claims. The first was Samuel S. White, in the fall of 1832, who erected a cabin on the site of the city of Burlington. About the same time, David Tothero made a claim on the prairie about three miles back from the river, at a place since known as the farm of Judge Morgan. In the winter of that year, they were driven off by the military from Rock Island, as intruders upon the rights of the Indians, and White's cabin was burnt by the soldiers. He retired to Illinois, where he spent the winter, and in the summer, as soon as the Indian title was extinguished, returned and rebuilt his cabin. White was joined by his brother-in-law, Doolittle, and they laid out the original town of Burlington, in 1834.

All along the river borders of the Black Hawk Purchase settlers were flocking into Iowa. Immediately after the treaty with the Sacs and Foxes, in September, 1832, Col. George Davenport made the first claim on the spot where the thriving city of Davenport now stands. As early as 1827, Col. Davenport had established a flatboat ferry, which ran between the island and the main shore of Iowa, by which he carried on a trade with the Indians west of the Mississippi. In 1833, Capt. Benjamin W. Clark moved across from Illinois, and laid the foundation of the town of Buffalo, in Scott county, which was the first actual settlement within the limits of that county. Among other early settlers in this part of the Territory were Adrian H. Davenport, Col. John Sullivan, Mulligan and Franklin Easley, Capt. John Coleman, J. M. Camp, William White, H. W. Higgins, Cornelius Harrold, Richard Harrison, E. H. Shepherd and Dr. E. S. Barrows.

The first settlers of Davenport were Antoine LeClaire, Col. George Davenport, Major Thomas Smith, Major William Gordon, Philip Hambaugh, Alexander W. McGregor, Levi S. Colton, Capt. James May and others. Of Antoine LeClaire, as the representative of the two races of men who, at this time occupied Iowa, Hon. C. C. Nourse, in his admirable Centennial address, says: "Antoine LeClaire was born in St. Joseph, Michigan, 1797. His father was French, his mother a granddaughter of a Pottawattamie chief.

In 1818 he acted as official interpreter to Col. Davenport, at Fort Armstrong (now Rock Island). He was well acquainted with a dozen Indian dialects, and was a man of strict integrity and great energy. In 1820 he married the granddaughter of a Sac chief. The Sac and Fox Indians reserved for him and his wife two sections of land in the treaty of 1833, one at the town of LeClaire and one at Davenport. The Pottawattamies, in the treaty at Prairie du Chien, also reserved for him two sections of land, at the present site of Moline, Ill. He received the appointment of Postmaster and Justice of the Peace in the Black Hawk Purchase, at an early day. In 1833 he bought for \$100 a claim on the land upon which the original town of Davenport was surveyed and platted in 1836. In 1836 LeClaire built the hotel, known since, with its valuable addition, as the LeClaire House. He died September 25, 1861."

In Clayton county the first settlement was made in the Spring of 1832, on Turkey River, by Robert Hatfield and William W. Wayman. No further settlements were made in this part of the State till the beginning of 1836.

In that portion now known as Muscatine county, settlements were made in 1834, by Benjamin Nye, John Vanater and G. W. Kasey, who were the first settlers. E. E. Fay, William St. John, N. Fullington, H. Reece, Jona. Pettibone, R. P. Lowe, Stephen Whicher, Abijah Whiting, J. E. Fletcher, W. D. Abernethy and Alexis Smith were early settlers of Muscatine.

During the summer of 1835, William Bennett and his family, from Galena, built the first cabin within the present limits of Delaware county, in some timber since known as Eads' Grove.

The first postoffice in Iowa was established at Dubuque in 1833. Milo H. Prentice was appointed postmaster.

The first Justice of the Peace was Antoine LeClaire, appointed in 1833, as "a very suitable person to adjust the difficulties between the white settlers and the Indians still remaining there."

The first Methodist Society in the Territory was formed at Dubuque on the 18th of May, 1834, and the first class meeting was held June 1st of that year.

The first church bell brought into Iowa was in March, 1834.

The first mass of the Roman Catholic Church in the Territory was celebrated at Dubuque, in the house of Patrick Quigley, in the fall of 1833.

The first school-house in the Territory was erected by the Dubuque miners in 1833.

The first Sabbath school was organized at Dubuque early in the Summer of 1834.

The first woman who came to this part of the Territory with a view to permanent residence, was Mrs. Noble F. Dean, in the Fall of 1832.

The first family that lived in this part of Iowa was that of Hosea T. Camp, in 1832.

The first meeting house was built by the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Dubuque, in 1834.

The first newspaper in Iowa was the Dubuque *Visitor*, issued May 11th, 1836. John King, afterward Judge King, was editor, and William C. Jones, printer.

The pioneers of Iowa, as a class, where brave, hardy, intelligent and enterprising people.

As early as 1824, a French trader named Hart had established a trading post, and built a cabin on the bluffs above the large spring now known as "Mynster Spring," within the limits of the present city of Council Bluffs, and had probably been there some time, as the post was known to the employes of the American Fur Company as *Lacote de Hart*, or "Hart's Bluff." In 1827 an agent of the American Fur Company, Francis Guittar, with others, encamped in the timber at the foot of the bluffs, about on the present location of Broadway, and afterward settled there. In 1839 a block house was built on the bluff in the east part of the city. The Pottawattamie Indians occupied this part of the State until 1846-7, when they relinquished the territory and removed to Kansas. Billy Caldwell was then principal chief. There were no white settlers in that part of the State, except Indian traders, until the arrival of the Mormons under the lead of Brigham Young. These people, on their way westward, halted for the Winter of 1846-7 on the west bank of the Missouri River, about five miles above Omaha, at a place now called Florence. Some of them had reached the eastern bank of the river the Spring before, in season to plant a crop. In the Spring of 1847, Young and a portion of the colony pursued their journey to Salt Lake, but a large portion of them returned to the Iowa side and settled mainly within the limits of Pottawattamie County. The principal settlement of this strange community was at a place called "Miller's Hollow," on Indian Creek, and afterward named Kanessville, in honor of Col. Kane, of Pennsylvania, who visited them soon afterward. The Mormon settlement extended over the county and into neighboring counties, wherever timber and water furnished desirable locations. Orson Hyde, priest, lawyer and editor, was installed as President of the Quorum of Twelve, and all that part of the State remained under Mormon control for several years. In 1846, they raised a battalion, numbering some five hundred men, for the Mexican war. In 1848 Hyde started a paper called the *Frontier Guardian*, at Kanessville. In 1849, after many of the faithful had left to join Brigham Young at Salt Lake, the Mormons in this section of Iowa numbered 6,552, and in 1850, 7,828, but they were not all within the limits of Pottawattamie County. This county was organized in 1848, all the first officials

being Mormons. In 1852 the order was promulgated that all the true believers should gather together at Salt Lake. Gentiles flocked in, and in a few years nearly all the settlers were gone.

May 9, 1843, Captain James Allen, with a small detachment of troops on board the steamer Ione, arrived at the present site of the capital of the State, Des Moines. The Ione was the first steamer to ascend the Des Moines River to this point. The troops and stores were landed at what is now the foot of Court avenue, Des Moines, and Capt. Allen returned in the steamer to Fort Sanford to arrange for bringing up more soldiers and supplies. In due time, they, too, arrived, and a fort was built near the mouth of Raccoon Fork, at its confluence with the Des Moines, and named Fort Des Moines. Soon after the arrival of the troops, a trading post was established on the east side of the river, by two noted Indian traders named Ewing, from Ohio.

Among the first settlers in this part of Iowa were Benjamin Bryant, J. B. Scott, James Drake (gunsmith), John Sturtevant, Robert Kinzie, Alexander Turner, Peter Newcomer, and others.

The Western States have been settled by many of the best and most enterprising men of the older States, and a large immigration of the best blood of the Old World, who, removing to an arena of larger opportunities, in a more fertile soil and congenial climate, have developed a spirit and energy peculiarly Western. In no country on the globe have enterprises of all kinds been pushed forward with such rapidity, or has there been such independence and freedom of competition. Among those who have pioneered the civilization of the West, and been the founders of great States, none have ranked higher in the scale of intelligence and moral worth than the pioneers of Iowa, who came to the territory when it was an Indian country, and through hardship, privation and suffering, laid the foundation of the populous and prosperous commonwealth which to-day dispenses its blessings to a million and a half of people. From her first settlement and from the first organization as a territory to the present day, Iowa has had able men to manage her affairs, wise statemen to shape her destiny and frame her laws, and intelligent and impartial jurists to administer justice to her citizens; her bar, pulpit and press have been able and widely influential; and in all the professions, arts, enterprises and industries which go to make up a great and prosperous commonwealth, she has taken and holds a front rank among her sister States of the West.

### TERRITORIAL HISTORY.

By act of Congress, approved October 31, 1803, the President of the United States was authorized to take possession of the territory included in the Louisiana purchase, and provided for a temporary government. By another act of the same session, approved March 26, 1804, the newly acquired country was divided, October

1st, 1804, into the territory of Orleans, south of the thirty-third parallel of north latitude, and the district of Louisiana, which latter was placed under the authority of the officers of Indian Territory.

In 1802 the district of Louisiana was organized as a Territory, with a government of its own. In 1807 Iowa was included in the Territory of Illinois, and in 1812 in the Territory of Missouri. When Missouri was admitted as a State, March 2, 1821, "Iowa," says Hon. C. C. Nourse, "was left a political orphan," until by act of Congress, approved June 28, 1834, the Black Hawk purchase having been made, all the territory west of the Mississippi and north of the northern boundary of Missouri, was made a part of Michigan Territory. Up to this time there had been no county or other organization in what is now the State of Iowa, although one or two Justices of the Peace had been appointed and a post-office was established at Dubuque in 1833. In September, 1834, however, the Territorial Legislature of Michigan created two counties on the west side of the Mississippi River, viz.: Dubuque and Des Moines, separated by a line drawn westward from the foot of Rock Island. These counties were partially organized. John King was appointed Chief Justice of Dubuque County, and Isaac Leffler of Burlington, of Des Moines County. Two Associate Justices in each county were appointed by the Governor.

On the first Monday in October, 1825, Gen. Geo. W. Jones, now a citizen of Dubuque, was elected a Delegate to Congress from this part of Michigan Territory. On the 20th of April, 1836, through the efforts of Gen. Jones, Congress passed a bill creating the Territory of Wisconsin, which went into operation July 4, 1836, and Iowa was then included in

#### THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN,

of which Gen. Henry Dodge was appointed Governor; John S. Horner, Secretary of the Territory; Charles Dunn, Chief Justice; David Irwin and Wm. C. Frazer, Associate Justices.

September 9, 1836, Gov. Dodge ordered the census of the new territory to be taken. This census resulted in showing a population of 10,531 in the counties of Dubuque and Des Moines. Under the apportionment, these two counties were entitled to six members of the Council and thirteen of the House of Representatives. The Governor issued his proclamation for an election to be held on the first Monday of October, 1836, on which day the following members of the First Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin were elected from the two counties in the Black Hawk purchase:

*Dubuque County.*—*Council:* John Fally, Thomas McKnight, Thomas McCarney. *House:* Loring Wheeler, Hardin Nowlan, Peter Hill Engle, Patrick Quigley, Hosea T. Camp.

*Des Moines County.*—*Council:* Jeremiah Smith, Jr., Joseph R. Teas, Arthur B. Inghram. *House:* Isaac Leffler, Thomas Blair, Warren L. Jenkins, John Box, George W. Teas, Eli Reynolds, David R. Chance.

The first Legislature assembled at Belmont, in the present State of Wisconsin, on the 25th day of October, 1836, and was organized by electing Henry T. Baird President of the Council, and Peter Hill Engle, of Dubuque, Speaker of the House. It adjourned December 9, 1836.

The second Legislature assembled at Burlington, November 10, 1837. Adjourned January 20, 1838. The third session was at Burlington; commenced June 1st, and adjourned June 12, 1838.

During the first session of Wisconsin Territorial Legislature, in 1836, the County of Des Moines was divided in Des Moines, Lee, Van Buren, Henry, Muscatine and Cook (the latter being subsequently changed to Scott) and defined their boundaries. During the second session, out of the territory embraced in Dubuque County, were created the counties of Dubuque, Clayton, Fayette, Delaware, Buchanan, Jackson, Jones, Linn, Clinton and Cedar, and their boundaries defined, but the most of them were not organized until several years afterward, under the authority of the Territorial Legislature of Iowa.

The question of a separate territorial organization for Iowa, which was then a part of Wisconsin Territory, began to be agitated early in the autumn of 1837. The wishes of the people found expression in a convention held at Burlington on the 1st of November, which memorialized Congress to organize a Territory west of the Mississippi, and to settle the boundary line between Wisconsin Territory and Missouri. The Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin, then in session at Burlington, joined in the petition. Gen. Geo. W. Jones, of Dubuque, then residing at Sinsinawa Mound, in what is now Wisconsin, was Delegate to Congress from Wisconsin Territory, and labored so earnestly and successfully, that "An act to divide the Territory of Wisconsin, and to establish the Territorial Government of Iowa," was approved June 12, 1838, to take effect and be in force on and after July 3, 1838. The new Territory embraced "all that part of the present Territory of Wisconsin which lies west of the Mississippi River, and west of a line drawn due north from the headwaters or sources of the Mississippi to the territorial line." The organic act provided for a Governor, whose term of office should be three years, and for a Secretary, Chief Justice, two Associate Justices, and Attorney and Marshal, who should serve four years, to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The act also provided for the election, by the white male inhabitants, citizens of the United States, over twenty-one years of age, of a House of Representatives, consisting of twenty-six members, and a Council, to consist of thirteen members. It also appropriated \$5,000 for a public library, and \$20,000 for the erection of public buildings.

President Van Buren appointed ex-Governor Robert Lucas, of Ohio, to be the first Governor of the new Territory. William B.

Conway, of Pittsburgh, was appointed Secretary of the Territory; Charles Mason, of Burlington, Chief Justice, and Thomas S. Wilson, of Dubuque, and Joseph Williams, of Pennsylvania, Associate Judges of the Supreme and District Courts; Mr. Van Allen, of New York, Attorney; Francis Gehon, of Dubuque, Marshal; Augustus C. Dodge, Register of the Land Office at Burlington, and Thomas McKnight, Receiver of the Land Office at Dubuque. Mr. Van Allen, the District Attorney, died at Rockingham, soon after his appointment, and Col. Charles Weston was appointed to fill his vacancy. Mr. Conway, the Secretary, also died at Burlington, during the second session of the Legislature, and James Clarke, editor of the *Gazette*, was appointed to succeed him.

Immediately after his arrival, Governor Lucas issued a proclamation for the election of members of the first Territorial Legislature, to be held on the 10th of September, dividing the Territory into election districts for that purpose, and appointing the 12th day of November for meeting of the Legislature to be elected, at Burlington.

The first Territorial Legislature was elected in September, and assembled at Burlington on the 12th of November, and consisted of the following members:

*Council.*—Jesse B. Brown, J. Keith, E. A. M. Swazy, Arthur Ingram, Robert Ralston, George Hepner, Jesse J. Payne, D. B. Hughes, James M. Clark, Charles Whittlesey, Jonathan W. Parker, Warner Lewis, Stephen Hempstead.

*House.*—William Patterson, Hawkins Taylor, Calvin J. Price, James Brierly, James Hall, Gideon S. Bailey, Samuel Parker, James W. Grimes, George Temple, Van B. Delashmutt, Thomas Blair, George H. Beeler,\* William G. Coop, William H. Wallace, Asbury B. Porter, John Frierson, William L. Toole, Levi Thornton, S. C. Hastings, Robert G. Roberts, Laurel Summers,† Jabez A. Burchard, Jr., Chauncey Swan, Andrew Bankson, Thomas Cox and Hardin Nowlin.

Notwithstanding a large majority of the members of both branches of the Legislature were Democrats, yet Gen. Jesse B. Browne (Whig), of Lee County, was elected President of the Council, and Hon. William H. Wallace (Whig), of Henry County, Speaker of the House of Representatives—the former unanimously and the latter with but little opposition. At that time national politics were little heeded by the people of the new Territory, but in 1840, during the Presidential campaign, party lines were strongly drawn.

---

\*Cyrus S. Jacobs, who was elected for Des Moines County, was killed in an unfortunate encounter at Burlington before the meeting of the Legislature, and Mr. Beeler was elected to fill the vacancy.

†Samuel R. Nurray was returned as elected from Clinton County, but his seat was successfully contested by Burchard.

At the election in September, 1838, for members of the Legislature, a Congressional Delegate was also elected. There were four candidates, viz.: William W. Chapman and David Rohrer, of Des Moines County; B. F. Wallace, of Henry County, and P. H. Engle, of Dubuque County. Chapman was elected, receiving a majority of thirty-six over Engle.

The first session of the Iowa Territorial Legislature was a stormy and exciting one. By the organic law, the Governor was clothed with almost unlimited veto power. Governor Lucas seemed disposed to make free use of it, and the independent Hawkeyes could not quietly submit to arbitrary and absolute rule, and the result was an unpleasant controversy between the Executive and Legislative departments. Congress, however, by act approved March 3, 1839, amended the organic law by restricting the veto power of the Governor to the two-thirds rule, and took from him the power to appoint sheriffs and Magistrates.

Among the first important matters demanding attention was the location of the seat of government and provision for the erection of public buildings, for which Congress had appropriated \$20,000. Governor Lucas, in his message, had recommended the appointment of Commissioners, with a view to making a central location. The extent of the future State of Iowa was not known or thought of. Only on a strip of land fifty miles wide, bordering on the Mississippi River, was the Indian title extinguished, and a central location meant some central point in the Black Hawk Purchase. The friends of a central location supported the Governor's suggestion. The southern members were divided between Burlington and Mount Pleasant, but finally united on the latter as the proper location for the seat of government. The central and southern parties were very nearly equal, and, in consequence, much excitement prevailed. The central party at last triumphed, and on the 21st day of January, 1839, an act was passed, appointing Chauncey Swan, of Dubuque County; John Ronalds, of Louisa County, and Robert Ralston, of Des Moines County, Commissioners, to select a site for a permanent seat of Government within the limits of Johnson County.

Johnson County had been created by act of the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin, approved December 21, 1837, and organized by act passed at the special session at Burlington in June, 1838, the organization to date from July 4th, following. Napoleon, on the Iowa River, a few miles below the future Iowa City, was designated as the county seat, temporarily.

Then there existed good reason for locating the capital in the county. The Territory of Iowa was bounded on the north by the British Possessions; east, by the Mississippi River to its source; thence by a line drawn due north to the northern boundary of the United States; south, by the State of Missouri, and west, by the Missouri and White Earth Rivers. But this immense territory



was in undisputed possession of the Indians, except a strip on the Mississippi known as the Black Hawk Purchase. Johnson County was, from north to south, in the geographical center of this purchase, and as near the east and west geographical center of the future State of Iowa as could then be made, as the boundary line between the lands of the United States and the Indians, established by the treaty of October 21, 1837, was immediately west of the county limits.

The Commissioners, after selecting the site, were directed to lay out 640 acres into a town, to be called Iowa City, and to proceed to sell lots and erect public buildings thereon, Congress having granted a section of land to be selected by the Territory for this purpose. The Commissioners met at Napoleon, Johnson County, May 1, 1839, selected for a site Section 10, in Township 79 North of Range 6, West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, and immediately surveyed it and laid off the town. The first sale of lots took place August 16, 1839. The site selected for the public buildings was a little west of the geographical center of the section, where a square of ten acres on the elevated grounds overlooking the river was reserved for the purpose. The capitol was located in the center of this square. The second Territorial Legislature, which assembled in November, 1839, passed an act requiring the Commissioners to adopt such plan for the building that the aggregate cost when complete, should not exceed \$51,000; and if they had already adopted a plan involving a greater expenditure, they were directed to abandon it. Plans for the building were designed and drawn by Mr. John F. Rague, of Springfield, Ill., and on the 4th day of July, 1840, the corner stone of the edifice was laid with appropriate ceremonies. Samuel C. Trowbridge was Marshal of the day, and Gov. Lucas delivered the address on that occasion.

When the Legislature assembled at Burlington in special session, July 13, 1840, Gov. Lucas announced that on the 4th of that month he had visited Iowa City, and found the basement of the capitol nearly completed. A bill authorizing a loan of \$20,000 for the building was passed, January 15, 1841, the unsold lots of Iowa City being the security offered, but only \$5,500 was obtained under the act.

## THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

The boundary line between the Territory of Iowa and the State of Missouri was a difficult question to settle in 1838, in consequence of claims arising from taxes and titles, and at one time civil war was imminent. In defining the boundaries of the counties bordering on Missouri, the Iowa authorities had fixed a line that has since been established as the boundary between Iowa and Missouri. The Constitution of Missouri defines her northern boundary to be the parallel of the latitude which passes through

the rapids of the Des Moines River. The lower rapids of the Mississippi immediately above the mouth of the Des Moines River had always been known as the Des Moines Rapids, or "the rapids of the Des Moines River." The Missourians (evidently not well versed in history or geography) insisted on running the northern boundary line from the rapids in the Des Moines River, just below Keosauqua, thus taking from Iowa a strip of territory eight or ten miles wide. Assuming this as her northern boundary line, Missouri attempted to exercise jurisdiction over the disputed territory by assessing taxes, and sending her Sheriffs to collect them by distraining the personal property of the settlers. The Iowans, however, were not disposed to submit, and the Missouri officials were arrested by the Sheriffs of Davis and Van Buren Counties and confined in jail. Gov. Boggs, of Missouri, called out his militia to enforce the claim and sustain the officers of Missouri. Gov. Lucas called out the militia of Iowa, and both parties made active preparations for war. In Iowa, about 1,200 men were enlisted, and 500 were actually armed and encamped in Van Buren County, ready to defend the integrity of the Territory. Subsequently, Gen. A. C. Dodge, of Burlington, Gen. Churchman, of Dubuque, and Dr. Clark, of Fort Madison, were sent to Missouri as envoys plenipotentiary, to effect, if possible, a peaceable adjustment of the difficulty. Upon their arrival, they found that the County Commissioners of Clarke County, Missouri, had rescinded their order for the collection of the taxes, and that Gov. Boggs had dispatched messengers to the Governor of Iowa proposing to submit an agreed case to the Supreme Court of the United States for the final settlement of the boundary question. This proposition was declined, but afterward Congress authorized a suit to settle the controversy, which was instituted, and which resulted in a judgment for Iowa. Under this decision, William G. Miner, of Missouri, and Henry B. Hendershott were appointed Commissioners to survey and establish the boundary. Mr. Nourse remarks that "the expenses of the war on the part of Iowa were never paid, either by the United States or the Territorial Government. The patriots who furnished supplies to the troops had to bear the cost and charges of the struggle."

The first legislative assembly laid the broad foundation of civil equality, on which has been constructed one of the most liberal governments in the Union. Its first act was to recognize the equality of woman with man before the law, by providing that "no action commenced by a single woman, who intermarries during the pendency thereof, shall abate on account of such marriage." This principle has been adopted by all subsequent legislation in Iowa, and to-day woman has full and equal civil rights with man, except only the right of the ballot.

Religious toleration was also secured to all, personal liberty strictly guarded, the rights and privileges of citizenship extended

to all white persons, and the purity of elections secured by heavy penalties against bribery and corruption. The judiciary power was vested in a Supreme Court, District Court Probate Court, and Justices of the Peace. Real estate was made divisible by will, and intestate property divided equitably among heirs. Murder was made punishable by death, and proportionate penalties fixed for lesser crimes. A system of free schools, open for every class of white citizens, was established. Provision was made for a system of roads and highways. Thus, under the territorial organization, the country began to emerge from a savage wilderness, and take on the forms of civil government.

By act of Congress of June 12, 1838, the lands which had been purchased of the Indians were brought into market, and land offices opened in Dubuque and Burlington. Congress provided for military roads and bridges, which greatly aided the settlers, who were now coming in by thousands, to make their homes on the fertile prairies of Iowa—"The Beautiful Land." The fame of the country had spread far and wide; even before the Indian title was extinguished, many were crowding the borders, impatient to cross over and stake out their claims on the choicest spots they could find in the new Territory. As soon as the country was open for settlement, the borders, the Black Hawk Purchase, all along the Mississippi, and up the principal rivers and streams, and out over the broad rolling prairies, began to be thronged with eager land hunters and immigrants, seeking homes in Iowa. It was a sight to delight the eyes of all comers from every land—its noble streams, beautiful and picturesque hills and valleys, broad and fertile prairies extending as far as the eye could reach, with a soil surpassing in richness anything which they had ever seen. It is not to be wondered at that immigration into Iowa was rapid, and that within less than a decade from the organization of the Territory it contained a hundred and fifty thousand people.

As rapidly as the Indian titles were extinguished and the original owners removed, the resistless tide of emigration flowed westward. The following extract from Judge Nourse's Centennial Address shows how the emigrants gathered on the Indian boundary, ready for the removal of the barrier:

In obedience to our progressive and aggressive spirit, the Government of the United States made another treaty with the Sac and Fox Indians, on the 11th day of August, 1842, for the remaining portion of their land in Iowa. The treaty provided that the Indians should retain possession of all the lands thus ceded until May 1, 1843, and should occupy that portion of the ceded territory west of a line running north and south through Redrock, until October 11, 1845. These tribes, at this time, had their principal village at Ot-tum-wa-no; now called Ottumwa. As soon as it became known that the treaty had been concluded, there was a rush of immigration to Iowa, and a great number of temporary settlements were made near the Indian boundary, waiting for the 1st day of May. As the day approached, hundreds of families encamped along the line, and their tents and wagons gave the scene the appearance of a military expe-

dition. The country beyond had been thoroughly explored, but the United States military authorities had prevented any settlement, or even the making out of claims by any monuments whatever.

To aid them in making out their claims when the hour should arrive, the settlers had placed piles of dry wood on the rising ground, at convenient distances, and a short time before twelve o'clock on the night of the 30th of April, these were lighted, and when the midnight hour arrived it was announced by the discharge of firearms. The night was dark, but this army of occupation pressed forward, torch in hand, with axe and hatchet, blazing lines with all manner of curves and angles. When daylight came and revealed the confusion of these wonderful surveys, numerous disputes arose, settled generally by compromise, but sometimes by violence. Between midnight of the 30th of April and sundown of the 1st of May, over one thousand families had settled on their new purchase.

While this scene was transpiring, the retreating Indians were enacting one more impressive and melancholy. The winter of 1842-43 was one of unusual severity, and the Indian prophet, who had disapproved of the treaty, attributed the severity of the winter to the anger of the Great Spirit, because they had sold their country. Many religious rites were performed to atone for the crime. When the time for leaving Ot-tum-wa-no arrived, a solemn silence pervaded the Indian camp, and the faces of their stoutest men were bathed in tears; and when their cavalcade was put in motion, toward the setting sun, there was a spontaneous outburst of frantic grief from the entire procession.

The Indians remained the appointed time beyond the line running north and south through Redrock. The Government established a trading post and military encampment at the Racoon Fork of the Des Moines River, then and for many years known as Fort Des Moines. Here the red men lingered until the 11th of October, 1845, when the same scene that we have before described was re-enacted, and the wave of immigration swept over the remainder of the "New Purchase." The lands thus occupied and claimed by the settlers still belonged in fee to the General Government. The surveys were not completed until some time after the Indian title was extinguished. After their survey, the lands were publicly proclaimed or advertised for sale at public auction. Under the laws of the United States, a pre-emption or exclusive right to purchase public lands could not be acquired until after the lands had thus been publicly offered and not sold for want of bidders. Then, and not until then, an occupant making improvements in good faith might acquire a right over others to enter the land at the minimum price of \$1.25 per acre. The "claim laws" were unknown to the United States statutes. They originated in the "eternal fitness of things," and were enforced, probably, as belonging to that class of natural rights not enumerated in the constitution, and not impaired or disparaged by its enumeration.

The settlers organized in every settlement prior to the public land sales, appointed officers, and adopted their own rules and regulations. Each man's claim was duly ascertained and recorded by the Secretary. It was the duty of *all* to attend the sales. The Secretary bid off the lands of each settler at \$1.25 per acre. The others were there to see, first, that he did his duty and bid in the land, and, secondly, to see that *no one else bid*. This, of course, sometimes led to trouble, but it saved the excitement of competition, and gave a formality and degree of order and regularity to the proceedings they would not otherwise have attained. As far as practicable, the Territorial Legislature recognized the validity of these "claims" upon the public lands, and in 1839 passed an act legalizing their sale and making their transfer a valid consideration to support a promise to pay for the same. (Acts of 1843, p. 456.) The Supreme Territorial Court held this law to be valid. (See *Hill v. Smith*, 1st Morris Rep, 70.) The opinion not only contains a decision of the question involved, but also contains much valuable erudition upon that "spirit of Anglo-Saxon liberty" which the Iowa settlers unquestionably inherited in a direct line of descent from the said "Anglo-Saxons." But the early settler was not always able to pay even this dollar and twenty-five cents per acre for his land.

Many of the settlers had nothing to begin with, save their hands, health and courage and their family jewels, "the pledges of love," and the "consumers of bread." It was not so easy to accumulate money in the early days of the State, and the "beautiful prairies," the "noble streams," and all that sort of poetic imagery, did not prevent the early settlers from becoming discouraged.

An old settler, in speaking of the privations and trials of those early days, says:

Well do the "old settlers" of Iowa remember the days from the first settlement to 1840. Those were days of sadness and distress. The endearments of home in another land had been broken up; and all that was hallowed on earth, the home of childhood, and the scenes of youth, were severed; and we sat by the gentle waters of our noble river, and, often "hung our harps on the willows."

Another, from another part of the State, testifies:

There was no such thing as getting money for any kind of labor. I laid brick at \$3.00 per thousand, and took my pay in anything I could eat or wear. I built the first Methodist Church at Keokuk, 42x60 feet, of brick, for \$600, and took my pay in a subscription paper, part of which I never collected, and upon which I only received \$50 00 in money. Wheat was hauled 100 miles from the interior, and sold for 37½ cents per bushel.

Another old settler, in speaking of a later period, 1843, says:

Land and everything had gone down in value to almost nominal prices. Corn and oats could be bought for six or ten cents a bushel; pork, \$1.00 per hundred, and the best horse a man could raise sold for \$50.00. Nearly all were in debt, and the Sheriff and Constable, with legal processes, were common visitors at almost every man's door. These were indeed "the times that tried men's souls."

"A few," says Mr. Nourse, "who were not equal to the trial, returned to their old homes, but such as had courage and faith to be the worthy founders of a great State remained, to more than realize the fruition of their hopes, and the reward of their self-denial."

On Monday, December 6, 1841, the fourth Legislative Assembly met, at the new capital, Iowa City, but the capitol building could not be used, and the Legislature occupied a temporary frame house, that had been erected for that purpose, during the session of 1841-2. At this session, the Superintendent of Public Buildings (who, with the Territorial Agent, had superseded the Commissioners first appointed), estimated the expense of completing the building at \$33,330, and that rooms for the use of the Legislature could be completed for \$15,600.

During 1842, the Superintendent commenced obtaining stone from a new quarry, about ten miles northeast of the city. This is now known as the "Old Captain Quarry," and contains, it is thought, an immense quantity of excellent building stone. Here all the stone for completing the building was obtained, and it was so far completed that on the 5th day of December, 1842, the Legislature assembled in the new capitol. At this session, the Superintendent estimated that it would cost \$39,143 to finish the build-

ing. This was nearly \$6,000 higher than the estimate of the previous year, notwithstanding a large sum had been expended in the meantime. This rather discouraging discrepancy was accounted for by the fact that the officers in charge of the work were constantly short of funds. Except the Congressional appropriation of \$20,000 and the loan of \$5,500, obtained from the Miners' Bank, of Dubuque, all the funds for the prosecution of the work were derived from the sale of the city lots (which did not sell very rapidly), from the certificates of indebtedness, and from scrip, based upon unsold lots, which was to be received in payment for such when they were sold. At one time the Superintendent made a requisition for bills of iron and glass, which could not be obtained nearer than St. Louis. To meet this, the Agent sold some lots for a draft, payable at Pittsburgh, Pa., for which he was compelled to pay twenty-five per cent. exchange. This draft, amounting to \$507, that officer reported to be more than one-half the cash actually handled by him during the entire season, when the disbursement amounted to very nearly \$24,000.

With such uncertainty it could not be expected that estimates could be very accurate. With all these disadvantages, however, the work appears to have been prudently prosecuted, and as rapidly as circumstances would permit.

Iowa remained a territory from 1838 to 1846, during which the office of Governor was held by Robert Lucas, John Chambers and James Clark.

## STATE ORGANIZATION.

By an act of the Territorial Legislature of Iowa, approved February 12, 1844, the question of the formation of a State Constitution and providing for the election of delegates to a convention to be convened for that purpose was submitted to the people, to be voted upon at their township elections in April following. The vote was largely in favor of the measure, and the delegates elected assembled in convention at Iowa city on the 7th of October, 1844. On the first day of November following the convention completed its work and adopted the first State constitution.

The President of the convention, Hon. Shepherd Leffler, was instructed to transmit a certified copy of this constitution to the delegate in Congress, to be by him submitted to that body at the earliest practicable day. It was also provided that it should be submitted, together with any conditions or changes that might be made by Congress, to the people of the Territory for their approval or rejection, at the township election in April, 1845.

The boundaries of the State, as defined by the constitution, were as follows:

Beginning in the middle of the channel of the Mississippi river, opposite mouth of the Des Moines river, thence up the said river Des Moines, in the middle of the main channel thereof, to a point where it is intersected by the

old Indian boundary line, or line run by John C. Sullivan in the year 1816; thence westwardly along said line to the "old" northwest corner of Missouri; thence due west to the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river; thence up in the middle of the main channel of the river last mentioned to the mouth of the Sioux or Calumet river; thence in a direct line to the middle of the main channel of the St. Peters river, where the Watonwan river—according to Nicollet's map—enters the same; thence down the middle of the main channel of said river to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence down the middle of the main channel of said river to the place of beginning.

These boundaries were rejected by Congress, but by act approved March 3, 1845, a State called Iowa was admitted into the Union, provided the people adopted the act, bounded as follows:

Beginning at the mouth of the Des Moines river, at the middle of the Mississippi, thence by the middle of the channel of that river to a parallel of latitude passing through the mouth of the Mankato or Blue Earth river; thence west, along said parallel of latitude to a point where it is intersected by a meridian line seventeen degrees and thirty minutes west of the meridian of Washington City; thence due south to the northern boundary line of the State of Missouri; thence easterly following that boundary line to the point at which the same intersects the Des Moines river; thence by the middle of the channel of that river to the place of beginning.

These boundaries, had they been accepted, would have placed the northern boundary of the State about thirty miles north of its present location, and would have deprived it of the Missouri slope and the boundary of that river. The western boundary would have been near the west line of what is now Kossuth county. But it was not so to be. In consequence of this radical and unwelcome change in the boundaries, the people refused to accept the act of Congress and rejected the constitution at the election, held August 4, 1845, by a vote of 7,656 to 7,235.

A second constitutional convention assembled at Iowa City on the 4th day of May, 1846, and on the 18th of the same month another Constitution for the new State with the present boundaries was adopted and submitted to the people for ratification on the 3d day of August following, when it was accepted; 9,492 votes were cast "for the Constitution," and 9,036 "against the Constitution."

The Constitution was approved by Congress, and by act of Congress approved December 28, 1846, Iowa was admitted as a sovereign State in the American Union.

Prior to this action of Congress, however, the people of the new State held an election under the new Constitution on the 26th day of October, and elected Oresel Briggs, Governor; Elisha Cutler, Jr., Secretary of State; Joseph T. Fales, Auditor; Morgan Reno, Treasurer, and members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

At this time there were twenty-seven organized counties in the State, with a population of nearly 100,000, and the frontier settlements were rapidly pushing toward the Missouri river. The Mormons had already reached there.

The first General Assembly of the State of Iowa was composed of nineteen Senators and forty Representatives. It assembled at Iowa City November 30, 1840, about a month *before* the State was admitted into the Union.

At the first session of the State Legislature, the Treasurer of State reported that the capitol building was in a very exposed condition, liable to injury from storms, and expressed the hope that some provision would be made to complete it, at least sufficiently to protect it from the weather. The General Assembly responded by appropriating \$2,500 for the completion of the public buildings. At the first session also arose the question of the re-location of the capital. The western boundary of the State, as now determined, left Iowa City too far toward the eastern and southern boundary of the State; this was conceded. Congress had appropriated five sections of land for the erection of public buildings, and toward the close of the session a bill was introduced providing for the re-location of the seat of government, involving to some extent the location of the State University, which had already been discussed. This bill gave rise to a deal of discussion and parliamentary maneuvering, almost purely sectional in its character. It provided for the appointment of three Commissioners, who were authorized to make a location as near the geographical center of the State as a healthy and eligible site could be obtained; to select the five sections of land donated by Congress; to survey and plat into town lots not exceeding one section of the land so selected; to sell lots at public sale, not to exceed two in each block. Having done this, they were then required to suspend further operations, and make a report of their proceedings to the Governor. The bill passed both Houses by decisive votes, received the signature of the Governor and became a law. Soon after, by "An act to locate and establish a State University," approved February 25th, 1847, the unfinished public buildings at Iowa City, together with the ten acres of land on which they were situated, were granted for the use of the University, reserving their use, however, by the General assembly and the State officers, until other provisions were made by law.

The commissioners forthwith entered upon their duties, and selected four sections and two half sections in Jasper county. Two of these sections are in what is now Des Moines Township, and the others in Fairview township, in the southern part of that county. These lands are situated between Prairie City and Monroe, on the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad, which runs diagonally through them. Here a town was platted, called Monroe City, and a sale of lots took place. Four hundred and fifteen lots were sold at prices that were not considered remarkably remunerative. The cash payments (one-fourth) amounted to \$1,797.43, while the expenses of the sale and the claims of the Commissioners for ser-



vices amounted to \$2,206.57. The Commissioners made a report of their proceedings to the Governor, as required by law, but the location was generally condemned.

When the report of the Commissioners, showing this brilliant financial operation, had been read in the House of Representatives at the next session, and while it was under consideration, an indignant member, afterward known as the eccentric Judge McFarland, moved to refer the report to a select committee of five, with instructions to report "how much of said city of Monroe was under water and how much was burned." The report was referred, without the instructions, however, but Monroe City never became the seat of government. By an act approved January 15, 1849, the law by which the location had been made was repealed and the new town was vacated, the money paid by purchasers of lots being refunded to them. This, of course, retained the seat of government at Iowa City, and precluded for the time, the occupation of the building and grounds by the University.

At the same session \$3,000 more were appropriated for completing the State building at Iowa City. In 1852 the further sum of \$5,000, and in 1854 \$4,000 more were appropriated for the same purpose, making the whole cost \$123,000, paid partly by the General Government and partly by the State, but principally from the proceeds of the sale of lots in Iowa City.

But the question of the permanent location of the seat of government was not settled; and in 1851 bills were introduced for the removal of the capital to Pella and to Fort Des Moines. The latter appeared to have the support of the majority, but was finally lost in the House on the question of ordering it to its third reading.

At the next session, in 1853, a bill was introduced in the Senate for the removal of the seat of government to Fort Des Moines, and, on final vote, was just barely defeated. At the next session, however, the effort was more successful, and on the 15th day of January, 1855, a bill re-locating the capital within two miles of the Racoon Fork of the Des Moines, and for the appointment of Commissioners, was approved by Gov. Grimes. The site was selected in 1856, in accordance with the provisions of this act, the land being donated to the State by citizens and property-holders of Des Moines. An association of citizens erected a building for a temporary capitol, and leased it to the State at a nominal rent.

The third constitutional convention to revise the Constitution of the State assembled at Iowa City, January 19, 1857. The new constitution framed by this convention was submitted to the people at an election held August 3, 1857, when it was approved and adopted by a vote of 40,311 "for" to 38,681 "against," and on the 3rd day of September following was declared by a proclamation of the Governor to be the supreme law of the State of Iowa.

Advised of the completion of the temporary State House at Des Moines, on the 19th of October following, Governor Grimes issued another proclamation, declaring the city of Des Moines to be the capital of the State of Iowa.

The removal of the archives and offices was commenced at once and continued through the fall. It was an undertaking of no small magnitude; there was not a mile of railroad to facilitate the work, and the season was unusually disagreeable. Rain, snow, and other accompaniments increased the difficulties, and it was not until December that the last of the effects—the safe of the State Treasurer, loaded on two large “bob-sleds”—drawn by ten yoke of oxen, was deposited in the new capitol. It is not imprudent now to remark that, during this passage over hills and prairies, across rivers, through bottom lands and timber, the safes belonging to the several departments contained large sums of money, mostly individual funds, however. Thus, Iowa City ceased to be the capital of the State, after four Territorial Legislatures, six State Legislatures and three Constitutional Conventions had held their sessions there. By the exchange, the old capitol at Iowa City became the seat of the University, and except the rooms occupied by the United States District Court, passed under the immediate and direct control of the trustees of that institution.

Des Moines was now the permanent seat of government, made so by the fundamental law of the State, and on the 11th day of January, 1858, the seventh General Assembly convened at the new capital. The building used for governmental purposes was purchased in 1864. It soon became inadequate for the purposes for which it was designed, and it became apparent that a new, large and permanent State House must be erected. In 1870, the General Assembly made an appropriation, and provided for the appointment of a Board of Commissioners to commence the work. The board consisted of Gov. Samuel Merrill, ex-officio President; Grenville M. Dodge, Council Bluffs; James F. Wilson, Fairfield; James Dawson, Washington; Simon G. Stein, Muscatine; James O. Crosby, Gainsville; Charles Dudley, Agency City; John N. Dewey, Des Moines; William L. Joy, Sioux City; Alexander R. Fulton, Des Moines, Secretary.

The act of 1870 provided that the building should be constructed of the best material and should be fire proof, to be heated and ventilated in the most approved manner; should contain suitable legislative halls, rooms for State officers, the judiciary, library, committees, archives and the collections of the State Agricultural Society, and for all purposes of State Government, and should be erected on grounds held by the State for that purpose. The sum first appropriated was \$150,000; and the law provided that no contract should be made, either for constructing or furnishing the building, which should bind the State for larger sums than those at the time appropriated. A design was drawn and plans and

specifications furnished by Cochrane & Piquenard, architects, which were accepted by the board, and on the 23d of November, 1871, the corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. The estimated cost and present value of the capitol is fixed at \$2,000,000.

From 1858 to 1860, the Sioux became troublesome in the north-western part of the State. These warlike Indians made frequent plundering raids upon the settlers, and murdered several families. In 1861, several companies of militia were ordered to that portion of the State to hunt down and punish the murderous thieves. No battles were fought, however, for the Indians fled when they ascertained that systematic and adequate measures had been adopted to protect the settlers.

"The year 1856 marked a new era in the history of Iowa. In 1854, the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad had been completed to the east bank of the Mississippi River, opposite Davenport. In 1854, the corner stone of a railroad bridge, that was to be the first to span the "Father of Waters," was laid with appropriate ceremonies at this point. St. Louis had resolved that the enterprise was unconstitutional, and by writs of injunction made an unsuccessful effort to prevent its completion. Twenty years later in her history, St. Louis repented her folly, and made atonement for her sin by imitating our example. On the first day of January, 1856, this railroad was completed to Iowa City. In the meantime, two other railroads had reached the east bank of the Mississippi—one opposite Burlington, and one opposite Dubuque—and these were being extended into the interior of the State. Indeed, four lines of railroad had been projected across the State from the Mississippi to the Missouri, having eastern connections. On the 15th of May, 1856, the Congress of the United States passed an act granting to the State, to aid in the construction of railroads, the public lands in alternate sections, six miles on either side of the proposed line. An extra session of the General Assembly was called in July of this year, that disposed of the grant to the several companies that proposed to complete these enterprises. The population of our State at this time had increased to 500,000. Public attention had been called to the necessity of a railroad across the continent. The position of Iowa, in the very heart and center of the Republic, on the route of this great highway across the continent, began to attract attention. Cities and towns sprang up through the State as if by magic. Capital began to pour into the State, and had it been employed in developing our vast coal measures and establishing manufactories among us, or if it had been expended in improving our lands, and building houses and barns, it would have been well. But all were in haste to get rich, and the spirit of speculation ruled the hour.

In the meantime every effort was made to help the speedy completion of the railroads. Nearly every county and city on the

Mississippi, and many in the interior, voted large corporate subscriptions to the stock of the railroad companies, and issued their negotiable bonds for the amount. Thus enormous county and city debts were incurred, the payment of which these municipalities tried to avoid upon the plea that they had exceeded the constitutional limitation of their powers. The Supreme Court of the United States held these bonds to be valid, and the courts by mandamus compelled the city and county authorities to levy taxes to pay the judgments. These debts are not all paid even yet, but the worst is over and ultimately the burden will be entirely removed.

The first railroad across the State was completed to Council Bluffs in January, 1871. The others were completed soon after. In 1854 there was not a mile of railroad in the State. In 1874, twenty years after, there were 3,765 miles in successful operation.

#### GROWTH AND PROGRESS.

When Wisconsin Territory was organized, in 1836, the entire population of that portion of the Territory now embraced in the State of Iowa was 10,531. The Territory then embraced two counties; Dubuque and Des Moines, erected by the Territory of Michigan, in 1834. From 1836 to 1838, the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin increased the number of counties to sixteen, and the population had increased to 22,859. Since then the counties have increased to ninety-nine, and the population, in 1875, was 1,366,000. The following table will show the population at different periods since the erection of Iowa Territory:

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
1838.....	22,589	1859.....	638,775
1840.....	43,115	1860.....	674,913
1844.....	75,152	1863.....	701,732
1846.....	97,588	1865.....	754,699
1847.....	116,651	1867.....	902,040
1849.....	152,988	1869.....	1,040,819
1850.....	191,982	1870.....	1,191,727
1851.....	204,774	1873.....	1,251,333
1852.....	230,713	1875.....	1,366,000
1853.....	326,013	1880.....	1,624,463
1856.....	519,055		

The most populous county in the State is Dubuque. Not only in population, but in everything contributing to the growth and greatness of a State has Iowa made rapid progress. In a little more than thirty years, its wild but beautiful prairies have advanced from the home of the savage to a highly civilized commonwealth, embracing all the elements of progress which characterize the older States.

Thriving cities and towns dot its fair surface; an iron net-work of thousands of miles of railroads is woven over its broad acres; ten thousand school houses, in which more than five hundred

thousand children are being taught the rudiments of education, testify to the culture and liberality of the people; high schools, colleges and universities are generously endowed by the State; manufactories spring up on all her water courses, and in most of her cities and towns.

Whether measured from the date of her first settlement, her organization as a Territory, or admission as a State, Iowa has thus far shown a growth unsurpassed, in a similar period, by any commonwealth on the face of the earth; and, with her vast extent of fertile soil, with her inexhaustible treasures of mineral wealth, with a healthful, invigorating climate; an intelligent, liberty-loving people; with equal, just and liberal laws, and her free schools, the future of Iowa may be expected to surpass the most hopeful anticipations of her present citizens.

Looking upon Iowa as she is to-day—populous, prosperous and happy—it is hard to realize the wonderful changes that have occurred since the first white settlements were made within her borders. When the number of States was only twenty-six, and their total population about twenty millions, our republican form of government was hardly more than an experiment, just fairly put upon trial. The development of our agricultural resources and inexhaustible mineral wealth had hardly commenced. Westward the "Star of Empire" had scarcely started on its way. West of the great Mississippi was a mighty empire, but almost unknown, and marked on the maps of the period as "The Great American Desert."

Now, thirty-eight stars glitter on our national escutcheon, and fifty millions of people, who know their rights and dare maintain them, tread American soil, and the grand sisterhood of States extends from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border, and from the rocky coast of the Atlantic to the golden shores of the Pacific.

## THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND FARM.

*Ames, Story County.*

The Iowa State Agricultural College and Farm were established by an act of the General Assembly, approved March 22d, 1858. A Board of Trustees was appointed, consisting of Governor R. P. Lowe, John D. Wright, William Duane Wilson, M. W. Robinson, Timothy Day, Richard Gaines, John Pattee, G. W. F. Sherwin, Suel Foster, S. W. Henderson, Clement Coffin, and E. G. Day; the Governor of the State and President of the College being ex-officio members. Subsequently the number of Trustees was reduced to five. The Board met in June, 1859, and received propositions for the location of the College and Farm from Hardin, Polk, Story and Boone, Marshall, Jefferson and Tama counties. In July, the proposition of Story County and some of its citizens and by the

citizens of Boone County was accepted, and the farm and the site for the buildings were located. In 1860-61, the farm house and barn were erected. In 1862 Congress granted to the State 240,000 acres of land for the endowment of schools of agriculture and the mechanical arts, and 195,000 acres were located by Peter Melendy, Commissioner, in 1862-63. In 1864 the General Assembly appropriated \$20,000 for the erection of the college building.

In June of that year the Building Committee proceeded to let the contract. The \$20,000 appropriated by the General Assembly were expended in putting in the foundations and making the brick for the structure. An additional appropriation of \$91,000 was made in 1866, and the building was completed in 1868.

Tuition in this college is made by law forever free to pupils from the State over sixteen years of age, who have been resident of the State six months previous to their admission. Each county in the State has a previous right of tuition for three scholars from each county; the remainder, equal to the capacity of the college, are by the trustees distributed among the counties in proportion to the population, and subject to the above rule. All sale of ardent spirits, wine or beer, is prohibited by law within a distance of three miles from the college, except for sacramental, mechanical or medical purposes.

The course of instruction in the Agricultural College embraces the following branches: Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Botany, Horticulture, Fruit Growing, Forestry, Animal and Vegetable Anatomy, Geology, Mineralogy, Meteorology, Entomology, Zoology, the Veterinary Art, Plain Mensuration, Leveling, Surveying, Bookkeeping, and such Mechanical Arts as are directly connected with agriculture; also such other studies as the Trustees may, from time to time, prescribe, not inconsistent with the purposes of the institution. The funds arising from the lease and sale of lands, and interest on investments, are sufficient for the support of the institution.

The Board of Trustees, in 1881, was composed of Charles W. Tenney, Plymouth; George H. Wright, Sioux City; Henry G. Little, Grinnell; William McClintock, West Union; John N. Dixon, Oskaloosa. A. S. Welch, President of the Faculty, W. D. Lucas, Treasurer; E. W. Stanton, Secretary.

The Trustees are elected by the General Assembly, in joint convention, for four years, three being elected at one session and two the next.

### THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

*Iowa City, Johnson County.*

In the famous Ordinance of 1787, enacted by Congress before the Territory of the United States extended beyond the Mississippi River, it was declared that in all the territory northwest of

the Ohio River, "Schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." By act of Congress, approved July 20, 1840, the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized "to set apart and reserve from sale, out of any of the public lands within the Territory of Iowa, to which the Indian title has been or may be extinguished, and not otherwise appropriated, a quantity of land, not exceeding the entire townships, for the use and support of a university within said Territory when it becomes a State, and for no other use or purpose whatever; to be located in tracts of not less than an entire section, corresponding with any of the large divisions into which the public lands are authorized to be surveyed."

William W. Dodge, of Scott County, was appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury to make the selections. He selected Section 5, in Township 78, north of Range 3, east of the Fifth Principal Meridian, and then removed from the Territory. No more land were selected until 1846, when, at the request of the Assembly, John M. Whitaker, of Van Buren County, was appointed, who selected the remainder of the grant except about 122 acres.

In the first Constitution, under which Iowa was admitted to the Union, the people directed the disposition of the proceeds of this munificent grant in accordance with its terms, and instructed the General Assembly to provide, as soon as may be, effectual means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds of the University derived from the lands.

The first General Assembly, by act approved February 25, 1847, established the "State University of Iowa" at Iowa City, then the Capital of the State, "with such other branches as public convenience may hereafter require." The "public buildings at Iowa City, together with the ten acres of land in which they are situated, were granted for the use of said University, *provided*, however, that the sessions of the Legislature and State offices should be held in the capitol until otherwise provided by law. The control and management of the University were committed to a Board of fifteen Trustees, to be appointed by the Legislature, five of whom were to be chosen biennially. The Superintendent of Public Instruction was made president of this Board. Provisions were made for the disposal of the two townships of land, and for the investment of the funds arising therefrom. The act further provides that the University shall never be under the exclusive control of any religious denomination whatever, and as soon as the revenue for the grant and donations amounts to \$2,000 a year, the University should commence and continue the instruction, free of charge, of fifty students annually. The General Assembly retained full supervision over the University, its officers and the grants and donations made and to be made to it by the State.

The organization of the University at Iowa City was impracticable, however, so long as the seat of government was retained there.

In January, 1849, two branches of the University and three Normal Schools were established. The branches were located—one at Fairfield, and the other at Dubuque, and were placed upon an equal footing, in respect to funds and all other matters, with the University established at Iowa City. "This act," says Col. Benton, "created *three* State Universities, with equal rights and powers, instead of a 'University with such branches as public convenience *may hereafter demand*,' as provided by the Constitution."

The Board of Directors of the Fairfield Branch consisted of Barnet Ristine, Christian W. Slagle, Daniel Rider, Horace Gaylord, Bernhart Henn and Samuel S. Bayard. At the first meeting of the Board Mr. Henn was elected President, Mr. Slagle Secretary, and Mr. Gaylord Treasurer. Twenty acres of land were purchased, and a building erected thereon, costing \$2,500. This building was nearly destroyed by a hurricane, in 1850, but was rebuilt more substantially, all by contributions of the citizens of Fairfield. This branch never received any aid from the State or from the University Fund, and by act approved January 24, 1853, at the request of the Board, the General Assembly terminated its relation to the State.

The branch at Dubuque was placed under the control of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Trustees never organized, and its existence was only nominal.

The Normal Schools were located at Andrew, Oskaloosa and Mount Pleasant, respectively. Each was to be governed by a board of seven Trustees, to be appointed by the Trustees of the University. Each was to receive \$500 annually from the income of the University fund, upon condition that they should educate eight common school teachers, free of charge for tuition, and that the citizens should contribute an equal sum for the erection of the requisite buildings. The several Boards of Trustees were appointed. At Andrew, the school was organized November 21, 1849. A building was commenced and over \$1,000 expended on it, but it was never completed. At Oskaloosa, the Trustees organized in April, 1852. This school was opened in the Court House, September 13, 1852. A two-story brick building was completed in 1853, costing \$2,473. The school at Mount Pleasant was never organized. Neither of these schools received any aid from the University fund, but in 1857 the Legislature appropriated \$1,000 each for those at Oskaloosa and Andrew, and repealed the law authorizing the payment of money to them from the University fund. From that time they made no further effort to continue in operation.

At a special meeting of the Board of Trustees, held February 21, 1850, the "College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Upper Mississippi," established at Davenport, was recognized as the "College of Physicians and Surgeons of the State University of Iowa,"



expressly stipulating, however, that such recognition should not render the University liable for any pecuniary aid, nor was the Board to have any control over the property or management of the Medical Association. Soon after, this College was removed to Keokuk, its second session being opened there in November, 1850. In 1851, the General Assembly confirmed the action of the Board, and by act approved January 22, 1855, placed the Medical College under the supervision of the Board of Trustees of the University, and it continued in operation until this arrangement was terminated by the new Constitution, September 3, 1857.

From 1847 to 1855, the Board of Trustees was kept full by regular elections by the Legislature, and the Trustees held frequent meetings, but there was no effectual organization of the University. In March, 1855, it was partially opened for a term of sixteen weeks. July 16, 1855, Amos Dean, of Albany, N. Y., was elected President, but he never entered fully upon its duties. The University was again opened in September, 1855, and continued in operation until June, 1856, under Professors Johnson, Welton, Van Valkenburg and Guffin.

In the Spring of 1856 the capital of the State was located at Des Moines; but there were no buildings there, and the capitol at Iowa City was not vacated by the State until December, 1857.

In June, 1856, the faculty was re-organized, with some changes, and the University was again opened on the third Wednesday of September, 1856. There were one hundred and twenty-four students—eighty-three males and forty-one females in attendance during the year 1856-7, and the first regular catalogue was published.

Article IX, Section 11, of the new State Constitution, which went into force Sept. 3, 1857, provided as follows:

The State University shall be established at one place, without branches at any other place; and the University fund shall be applied to that institution, and no other.

Article XI, Section 8, provided that

The seat of government is hereby permanently established, as now fixed by law, at the city of Des Moines, in the county of Polk; and the State University at Iowa City, in the county of Johnson.

The new Constitution created the Board of Education, consisting of the Lieutenant-Governor, who was ex-officio President, and one member to be elected from each judicial district in the State. This Board was endowed with "full power and authority to legislate and make all needful rules and regulations in relation to common schools and other educational institutions," subject to alteration, amendment or repeal by the General Assembly, which was vested with authority to abolish or re-organize the Board at any time after 1863.

In December, 1857, the old capitol building, now known as Central Hall of the University, except the rooms occupied by the United States District Court, and the property, with that excep-

tion, passed under the control of the Trustees, and became the seat of the University. The old building had had hard usage, and its arrangement was illy adapted for University purposes. Extensive repairs and changes were necessary, but the Board was without funds for these purposes.

The last meeting of the Board, under the old law, was held in January, 1858. At this meeting a resolution was introduced, and seriously considered, to exclude females from the University; but it finally failed.

March 12, 1858, the first Legislature under the new Constitution enacted a new law in relation to the University, but it was not materially different from the former. March 11, 1858, the Legislature appropriated \$3,000 for the repair and modification of the old capitol building, and \$10,000 for the erection of a boarding house, now known as South Hall.

The Board of Trustees created by the new law met and duly organized April 27, 1858, and determined to close the University until the income from its funds should be adequate to meet the current expenses, and the buildings should be ready for occupation. Until this term, the building known as the "Mechanics' Academy" had been used for the school. The Faculty, except the Chancellor (Dean), was dismissed, and all further instruction suspended, from the close of the term then in progress until September, 1859. At this meeting, a resolution was adopted excluding females from the University after the close of the existing term; but this was afterward, in August, modified, so as to admit them to the Normal Department.

An "Act for the Government and Regulation of the State University of Iowa," approved December 25, 1858, was mainly a reenactment of the law of March 12, 1858, except that changes were made in the Board of Trustees, and manner of their appointment. This law provided that both sexes were to be admitted on equal terms to all departments of the institution, leaving the Board no discretion in the matter.

At the annual meeting June 28, 1860, a full Faculty was appointed, and the University re-opened, under this new organization, September 19, 1860 (third Wednesday); and at this date the actual existence of the University may be said to commence.

August 19, 1862, Dr. Totten having resigned, Prof. Oliver M. Spencer was elected President and the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon Judge Samuel F. Miller, of Keokuk.

At the commencement, in June, 1863, was the first class of graduates in the Collegiate Department.

The Board of Education was abolished March 19, 1864 and the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction was restored; the General Assembly resumed control of the subject of education, and on March 21 an act was approved for the government of the University. It was substantially the same as the former law, but

provided that the Governor should be *ex-officio* President of the Board of Trustees. Until 1858, the Superintendent of Public Instruction had been *ex-officio* President. During the period of the Board of Education, the University trustees were elected by it, and elected their own President.

The North Hall was completed late in 1866.

The Law Department was established in June, 1868, and in September following an arrangement was perfected with the Iowa Law School, at Des Moines, which had been in successful operation for three years, by which that institution was transferred to Iowa City and merged in the Law Department of the University.

At a special meeting of the Board, on the 17th of September, 1868, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of establishing a Medical Department. The committee reported at once in favor of the proposition, the Faculty to consist of the President of the University and seven Professors, and recommended that, if practicable, the new department should be opened at the commencement of the University year, in 1869-70.

By an act of the General Assembly, approved April 11, 1870, the "Board of Regents" was instituted as the governing power of the University, and since that time it has been the fundamental law of the institution. The Board of Regents held its first meeting June 28, 1870.

The South Hall, having been fitted up for the purpose, the first term of the Medical Department was opened October 24, 1870, and continued until March, 1871.

In June 1874, the "Chair of Military Instruction" was established, and the President of the United States was requested to detail an officer to perform its duties. At the annual meeting, in 1876, a Department of Homœopathy was established. In March, 1877 a resolution was adopted affiliating the High Schools of the State with the University.

In 1872, the *ex-officio* membership of the Superintendent of Public Instruction was abolished, but it was restored in 1876.

The Board of Regents, in 1881, was composed as follows: John H. Gear, Governor, *ex-officio*, President; Carl W. VonCoelln, Superintendent of Public Instruction, *ex-officio*; J. L. Picard, President of the University, *ex-officio*. C. W. Slagle, Fairfield, First District; D. N. Richardson, Davenport. Second District; H. C. Bulis, Decorah, Third District; A. T. Reeve, Hampton, Fourth District; J. N. W. Rumble, Marengo, Fifth District; W. O. Crosby, Centerville, Sixth District; T. S. Parr, Indianola, Seventh District; Horace Everett, Council Bluffs, Eighth District; J. F. Duncombe, Fort Dodge, Ninth District. John N. Coldren, Iowa City, Treasurer; W. J. Haddock, Iowa City, Secretary.

The Regents are elected by the General Assembly, in Joint Convention, for six years, one-third being elected at each regular session, one member to be chosen from each Congressional District.

The present educational corps of the University consists of the President, nine Professors in the Collegiate Department, one Professor and six Instructors in Military Science; Chancellor, three Professors and four Lecturers in the Law Department; eight Professor demonstrators of Anatomy; Prosector of Surgery and two Lecturers in the Medical Department, and two Professors in the Homœopathic Medical Department.

### STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

By act of the General Assembly, approved January 28, 1857, a State Historical Society was provided for in connection with the University. At the commencement, an appropriation of \$250 was made, to be expended in collecting, embodying and preserving in an authentic form, a library of books, pamphlets, charts, maps, manuscripts, papers, painting, statuary, and other materials illustrative of the history of Iowa; and with the further object to rescue from oblivion the memory of the early pioneers; to obtain and preserve various accounts of their exploits, perils and hardy adventures; to secure facts and statements relative to the history and genius, and progress and decay of the Indian tribes of Iowa, to exhibit faithfully the antiquities and past and present resources of the State; to aid in the publication of such collections of the society as shall, from time to time, be deemed of value and interest; to aid in binding its books, pamphlets, manuscripts and papers, and in defraying other necessary incidental expenses of the Society.

There was appropriated by law to this institution, till the General Assembly shall otherwise direct, the sum of \$500 per annum. The Society is under the management of a Board of Curators, consisting of eighteen persons, nine of whom are appointed by the Governor, and nine elected by the members of the Society. The Curators receive no compensation for their services. The annual meeting is provided for by law, to be held at Iowa City on Monday preceding the last Wednesday in June of each year.

The State Historical Society has published a series of very valuable collections, including history, biography, sketches, reminiscences, etc., with quite a large number of finely engraved portraits of prominent and early settlers, under the title of "Annals of Iowa."

### THE PENITENTIARY.

*Locoted at Fort Madison, Lee County.*

The first act of the Territorial Legislature, relating to a Penitentiary in Iowa, was approved January 25, 1839, the fifth section of which authorized the Governor to draw the sum of \$20,000 appropriated by an act of Congress approved July 7, 1838, for public buildings in the Territory of Iowa. It provided for a

Board of Directors of three persons elected by the Legislature, who should direct the building of the Penitentiary, which should be located within one mile of the public square, in the town of Fort Madison, Lee County, provided Fort Madison should deed to the Directors a tract of land suitable for a site, and assign them, by contract, a spring or stream of water for the use of the Penitentiary. To the Directors was also given the power of appointing the Warden; the latter to appoint his own assistants.

The first Directors appointed were John S. David and John Claypole. They made their first report to the Legislative Council November 9, 1839. The citizens of the town of Fort Madison had executed a deed conveying ten acres of land for the building site. Amos Ladd was appointed Superintendent of the building June 5, 1839. The building was designed of sufficient capacity to contain one hundred and thirty-eight convicts, and estimated to cost \$55,933.90. It was begun on the 9th of July, 1839; the main building and Warden's house were completed in the fall of 1841. Other additions were made from time to time till the building and arrangements were all complete according to the plan of the Directors. It has answered the purpose of the State as a Penitentiary for more than thirty years, and during that period many items of practical experience in prison management have been gained.

#### ADDITIONAL PENITENTIARY.

*Located at Anamosa, Jones County.*

By an Act of the Fourteenth General Assembly, approved April 23, 1872, William Ure, Foster L. Downing and Martin Heisey were constituted Commissioners to locate and provide for the erection and control of an additional Penitentiary for the State of Iowa. These Commissioners met on the 4th of the following June, at Anamosa, Jones County, and selected a site donated by the citizens, within the limits of the city. L. W. Foster & Co., architects, of Des Moines, furnished the plan, drawings and specifications, and work was commenced on the building on the 28th day of September, 1872. May 13, 1873, twenty convicts were transferred to Anamosa from the Fort Madison Penitentiary. The entire enclosure includes fifteen acres, with a frontage of 663 feet.

#### IOWA HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

*Mount Pleasant, Henry County.*

By an act of the General Assembly of Iowa, approved January 24, 1855, \$4,425 were appropriated for the purchase of a site, and \$50,000 for building an Insane Hospital, and the Governor (Grimes), Edward Johnston, of Lee County, and Charles S. Blake, of Henry County, were appointed to locate the institution and

superintend the erection of the building. These Commissioners located the institution at Mt. Pleasant, Henry County. A plan for a building designed to accommodate 300 patients was accepted, and in October work was commenced. Up to February 25, 1858, and including an appropriation made on that date, the Legislature had appropriated \$258,555.67 to this institution, but the building was not finished ready for occupancy by patients until March 1, 1861. April 18, 1876, a portion of the hospital building was destroyed by fire.

*Trustees, 1881:*—Timothy Whiting, Mount Pleasant; J. H. Kulp, Davenport; Denison A. Hurst, Oskaloosa; John Conaway, Brooklyn; L. E. Fellows, Lansing. Mark Ranney, M. D., Mt. Pleasant, is the Medical Superintendent; C. V. Arnold, Mt. Pleasant, Treasurer.

## HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

### *Independence, Buchanan County.*

In the winter of 1867-8 a bill providing for an additional Hospital for the insane was passed by the Legislature, and an appropriation of \$125,000 was made for that purpose. Maturin L. Fisher, of Clayton County; E. G. Morgan, of Webster County, and Albert Clark, of Buchanan County, were appointed Commissioners to locate and supervise the erection of the building.

The Commissioners met and commenced their labors on the 8th day of June, 1868, at Independence. The act under which they were appointed required them to select the most eligible and desirable location, of not less than 320 acres, within two miles of the City of Independence, that might be offered by the citizens free of charge to the State. Several such tracts were offered, but the Commissioners finally selected the south half of southwest quarter of Section 5; the north half of northeast quarter of Section 7; the north half of northwest quarter of Section 8, and the north half of northeast quarter of Section 8, all in Township 88 north, Range 9 west of the Fifth Principal Meridian. This location is on the west side of the Wapsipinicon River, and about a mile from its banks, and about the same distance from Independence.

The contract for erecting the building was awarded for \$88,114. The contract was signed November 7, 1868, and work was at once commenced. The main buildings were constructed of dressed limestone, from the quarries at Anamosa and Farley. The base-ments are of the local granite worked from the immense boulders found in large quantities in this portion of the State.

In 1872 the building was so far completed that the Commissioners called the first meeting of the Trustees, on the 10th day of July of that year. The building was ready for occupancy April 21, 1873.

In 1877, the south wing was built, but was not completed ready for occupancy until the Spring or Summer of 1878.

Trustees, 1881:—Erastus G. Morgan, Fort Dodge, President; Jed. Lake, Independence; Mrs. Jennie C. McKinney, Decorah; Lewis H. Smith, Algona; David Hammer, McGregor; A. Reynolds, M. D., Independence, Medical Superintendent; W. G. Donnar, Independence, Treasurer.

## IOWA COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND.

*Vinton, Benton County.*

In August, 1852, Prof. Samuel Bacon, himself blind, established an Institution for the instruction of the blind of Iowa, at Keokuk.

By act of the General Assembly, entitled "An act to establish an Asylum for the Blind," approved January 18, 1853, the institution was adopted by the State, removed to Iowa City, February 3d, and opened for the reception of pupils April 4, 1853, free to all the blind in the State.

The Board of Trustees appointed Prof. Samuel Bacon, Principal; T. J. McGittigen, Teacher of Music, and Mrs. Sarah K. Bacon, Matron. Twenty-three pupils were admitted during the first term.

In his first report, made in 1854, Prof. Bacon suggested that the name should be changed from "Asylum for the Blind," to that of "Institution for the Instruction of the Blind." This was done in 1855, when the General Assembly made an annual appropriation for the College of \$55 per quarter for each pupil. This was subsequently changed to \$3,000 per annum, and a charge of \$25 as an admission fee for each pupil, which sum, with the amounts realized from the sale of articles manufactured by the blind pupils, proved sufficient for the expenses of the institution during Mr. Bacon's administration.

On the 8th of May, 1858, the Trustees met at Vinton, and made arrangements for securing the donation of \$5,000 made by the citizens of that town.

In June of that year a quarter section of land was donated for the College, by John W. O. Webb and others, and the Trustees adopted a plan for the erection of a suitable building. In 1860 the plan was modified, and the contract for enclosing lot for \$10,420.

In August, 1862, the building was so far completed that the goods and furniture of the institution were removed from Iowa City to Vinton, and early in October the School was opened there with twenty-four pupils.

Trustees, 1881:—Clinton O. Harrington, Vinton; S. H. Watson, Vinton, Treasurer; J. F. White, Sidney; M. H. Westerbrook, Lyons; W. H. Leavitt, Waterloo; Jacob Springer, Watkins; Rev. Robert Carothers, Principal of the Institution and Secretary of the Board.

## INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

*Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County.*

The Iowa Institution for the Deaf and Dumb was established at Iowa City by an act of the General Assembly, approved January 24, 1855. The number of deaf mutes then in the State was 301; the number attending the Institution, 50.

A strong effort was made, in 1866, to remove this important institution to Des Moines, but it was located permanently at Council Bluffs, and a building rented for its use. In 1868, Commissioners were appointed to locate a site for, and to superintend the erection of a new building, for which the Legislature appropriated \$125,000 to commence the work of construction. The Commissioners selected ninety acres of land about two miles south of the city of Council Bluffs. The main building and one wing were completed October 1, 1870, and immediately occupied by the Institution. February 25, 1877, the main building and east wing were destroyed by fire; and August 6th, following, the roof of the new west wing was blown off and the walls partially demolished by a tornado. At the time of the fire about one hundred and fifty pupils were in attendance. After the fire, half the classes were dismissed and the number of scholars reduced to about seventy, and in a week or two the school was in running order.

Trustees, 1881:—B. F. Clayton, Macedonia, President; J. H. Stubenrauch, Pella, Treasurer; Louis Weinstein, Burlington. Rev. A. Rogers, Superintendent.

## SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' HOMES.

*Davenport, Cedar Falls, Glenwood.*

The movement which culminated in the establishment of this beneficent institution was originated by Mrs. Annie Wittenmeyer, during the civil war of 1861-65. This noble and patriotic lady called a convention at Muscatine, on the 7th day of October, 1863, for the purpose of devising measures for the support and education of the orphan children of the brave sons of Iowa, who had fallen in defense of national honor and integrity. So great was the public interest in the movement that there was a large representation from all parts of the State on the day named, and an association was organized called the Iowa State Orphan Asylum.

The first meeting of the Trustees was held February 14, 1864, in the Representative Hall, at Des Moines. Committees from both branches of the General Assembly were present and were invited to participate in their deliberations. Arrangements were made for raising funds.

At the next meeting, in Davenport, in March 1864, the Trustees decided to commence operations at once, and a committee was



appointed to lease a suitable building, solicit donations, and procure suitable furniture. The committee secured a large brick building in Lawrence, Van Buren County, and engaged Mr. Fuller, of Mt. Pleasant, as Steward.

At the annual meeting, in Des Moines, in June, 1864, Mrs. C. B. Baldwin, Mrs. G. G. Wright, Mrs. Dr. Horton, Miss Mary E. Shelton and Mr. George Sherman, were appointed a committee to furnish the building and take all necessary steps for opening the "Home," and notice was given that at the next meeting of the Association, a motion would be made to change the name of the Institution to Iowa Orphans' Home.

The work of preparation was conducted so vigorously that on the 13th day of July following, the Executive Committee announced that they were ready to receive the children. In three weeks twenty-one were admitted, and the number constantly increased, so that, in a little more than six months from the time of opening, there were seventy children admitted, and twenty more applications, which the Committee had not acted upon—all orphans of soldiers.

The "Home" was sustained by the voluntary contributions of the people until 1866, when it was assumed by the State. In that year, the General Assembly provided for the location of several such "Homes" in the different counties, and which were established at Davenport, Scott County; Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, and at Glenwood, Mills County.

The Board of Trustees, elected by the General Assembly, had the oversight and management of the Soldiers' Orphans' Homes of the State, and consisted of one person from each county in which such Home was located, and one for the State at large, who held their offices two years, or until their successors were elected and qualified. An appropriation of \$10 per month for each orphan actually supported was made by the General Assembly.

The Home in Cedar Falls was organized in 1865, and an old hotel building was fitted up for it. January, 1866, there were ninety-six inmates.

October 12, 1869, the Home was removed to a large brick building, about two miles west of Cedar Falls, and was very prosperous for several years, but in 1876, the General Assembly established a State Normal school at Cedar Falls, and appropriated the buildings and grounds for that purpose.

By "An act to provide for the organization and support of an asylum at Glenwood, in Mills County for feeble-minded children," approved March 17, 1876, the buildings and grounds used by the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at that place were appropriated for this purpose. By another act, approved March 15, 1876, the soldiers' orphans, then at the Homes at Glenwood and Cedar Falls, were to be removed to the Home at Davenport within ninety days there-

after, and the Board of Trustees of the Home were authorized to receive other indigent children into that institution, and provide for their education in industrial pursuits.

Trustees, 1881:—C. M. Holton, Iowa City; Seth P. Bryant, Davenport; C. C. Horton, Muscatine. S. W. Pierce, Davenport, Superintendent.

### STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

#### *Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County.*

Chapter 129 of the laws of the Sixteenth General Assembly, in 1876, established a State Normal School at Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, and required the Trustees of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home to turn over the property in their charge to the Directors of the new institution.

The Board of Directors met at Cedar Falls June 7, 1876, and duly organized. The Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home met at the same time for the purpose of turning over to the Directors the property of that institution, which was satisfactorily done and properly receipted for as required by law.

On the 12th of July, 1876, the Board again met, when executive and teachers' committees were appointed and their duties assigned. A Steward and a Matron were elected, and their respective duties defined.

The buildings and grounds were repaired and fitted up as well as the appropriation would admit, and the first term of school opened September 6, 1876, commencing with twenty-seven and closing with eighty-seven students.

Directors, 1881:—C. C. Cory, Pella; E. H. Thayer, Clinton; G. S. Robinson, Storm Lake; N. W. Boyes, Dubuque; L. D. Lewelling, Mitchellville; J. J. Tollerton, Cedar Falls; E. Townsend, Cedar Falls, Treasurer.

### ASYLUM FOR FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

#### *Glenwood, Mills County.*

Chapter 152 of the laws of the Sixteenth General Assembly, approved March 17, 1876, provided for the establishment of an asylum for feeble-minded children at Glenwood, Mills County, and the buildings and the grounds of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at that place were to be used for that purpose. The asylum was placed under the management of three Trustees, one at least of whom should be a resident of Mills County. Children between the ages of 7 and 18 years are admitted. Ten dollars per month for each child actually supported by the State was appropriated by the act, and \$2,000 for salaries of officers and teachers for two years.

Hon. J. W. Cattell, of Polk County; A. J. Russell, of Mills County, and W. S. Robertson, were appointed Trustees, who held their first meeting at Glenwood, April 26, 1876. The Trustees

found the house and farm which had been turned over to them in a shamefully dilapidated condition. The fences were broken down and the lumber destroyed or carried away; the windows broken, doors off their hinges, floors broken and filthy in the extreme, cellars reeking with offensive odors from decayed vegetables, and every conceivable variety of filth and garbage; drains obstructed, cisterns broken, pump demoralized, wind-mill broken, roof leaky, and the whole property in the worst possible condition. It was the first work of the Trustees to make the house tenable.

The institution was opened September 1, 1876; the first pupil admitted September 4, and the school was organized September 10.

Trustees, 1881:—Fred. O'Donnell, Dubuque; S. B. Thrall, Ottumwa; E. R. S. Woodrow, Glenwood; O. W. Archibald, M. D., Medical Superintendent.

## THE REFORM SCHOOL.

### *Eldora, Hardin County.*

By "An act to establish and organize a State Reform School for Juvenile Offenders," approved March 31, 1868, the General Assembly established a State Reform School at Salem, Lee (Henry) County; provided for a Board of Trustees, to consist of one person from each Congressional District. For the purpose of immediately opening the school, the Trustees were directed to accept the proposition of the Trustees of White's Iowa Manual Labor Institute, at Salem, and lease, for not more than ten years, the lands, buildings, etc., of the Institute, and at once proceed to prepare for and open a reform school as a temporary establishment.

The contract for fitting up the buildings was let September 21, 1868, and on the 7th of October following, the first inmate was received from Jasper County. The law provided for the admission of children of both sexes under 18 years of age. In 1876 this was amended, so that they are now received at ages over 7 and under 16 years.

April 19, 1872, the Trustees were directed to make a permanent location for the school, and \$45,000 was appropriated for the erection of the necessary buildings. The Trustees were further directed, as soon as practicable, to organize a school for girls in the buildings where the boys were then kept.

The Trustees located the school at Eldora, Hardin County, and in the code of 1873, it is permanently located there by law.

The institution is managed by five Trustees, who are paid mileage, but no compensation for their services.

The object is the reformation of children of both sexes, under the age of 16 and over 7 years of age; and the law requires that the Trustees shall require the boys and girls under their charge to be instructed in piety and morality, and in such branches of useful

knowledge as are adapted to their age and capacity, and in some regular course of labor, either mechanical, manufacturing or agricultural, as is best suited to their age, strength, disposition and capacity, and as may seem best adapted to secure the reformation and future benefit of the boys and girls.

A boy or girl committed to the State Reform School is there kept, disciplined, instructed, employed and governed, under the direction of the Trustees, until he or she arrives at the age of majority, or is bound out, reformed or legally discharged. The binding out or discharge of a boy or girl as reformed, or having arrived at the age of majority, is a complete release from all penalties incurred by conviction of the crime for which he or she is committed.

Trustees, 1881:—J. A. Parvin, Muscatine, President; W. J. Moir, Eldorado, Treasurer; W. G. Stewart, Dubuque; J. T. Moorhead, Ely; T. E. Corkhill, Mount Pleasant; B. J. Miles, Eldora, Superintendent. L. D. Lewelling is Superintendent of the Girl's Department, at Mitchellville, Polk County.

### FISH HATCHING ESTABLISHMENT.

*Near Anamosa, Jones County.*

The Fifteenth General Assembly, in 1874, passed "An act to provide for the appointment of a Board of Fish Commissioners for the construction of fishways for the protection and propagation of fish;" also "an act to provide for furnishing the rivers and lakes with fish and fish spawn." This act appropriated \$3,000 for the purpose. In accordance with the provisions of the first act above mentioned, on the 9th of April, 1874, S. B. Evans, of Ottumwa, Wapello County; B. F. Shaw, of Jones County, and Charles A. Haines, of Black Hawk County, were appointed to be Fish Commissioners by the Governor. These Commissioners met at Des Moines, May 10, 1874, and organized by the election of Mr. Evans, President; Mr. Shaw, Secretary and Superintendent, and Mr. Haines, Treasurer.

The State was partitioned into three districts or divisions to enable the Commissioners to better superintend the construction of fishways as required by law. At this meeting, the Superintendent was authorized to build a State Hatching House; to procure the spawn of valuable fish adapted to the waters of Iowa; hatch and prepare the young fish for distribution, and assist in putting them into the waters of the State.

In compliance with these instructions, Mr. Shaw at once commenced work, and in the summer of 1874, erected a "State Hatching House" near Anamosa, 20x40 feet, two stories; the second story being designed for a tenement; the first story being the "hatching room." The hatching troughs are supplied with water from a magnificent spring, four feet deep and about ten

feet in diameter, affording an abundant and unfailing supply of pure running water. During the first year, from May 10, 1874, to May 10, 1875, the Commissioners distributed within the State 100,000 shad, 300,000 California salmon, 10,000 bass, 80,000 Penobscot (Maine) salmon, 5,000 land-locked salmon, 20,000 of other species.

By act approved March 10, 1876, the law was amended so that there should be one instead of three Fish Commissioners, and B. F. Shaw was appointed, and the Commissioner was authorized to purchase twenty acres of land, on which the State Hatching House was located, near Anamosa.

In the fall of 1876, Commissioner Shaw gathered from the sloughs of the Mississippi, where they would have been destroyed, over a million and a half of small fish, which were distributed in the various rivers of the State and turned into the Mississippi.

In 1875-6, 533,000 California salmon, and in 1877, 303,500 lake trout were distributed in various rivers and lakes in the State. The experiment of stocking the small streams with brook trout is being tried, and 81,000 of the speckled beauties were distributed in 1877. In 1876, 100,000 young eels were distributed. These came from New York, and they are increasing rapidly.

A. A. Mosier, of Spirit Lake, was appointed Assistant Fish Commissioner by the Governor, under Chapter 156, Laws of 1880.

## THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The grants of public lands made in the State of Iowa, for various purposes, are as follows:

1. The 500,000 Acre Grant.
2. The 16th Section Grant.
3. The Mortgage School Lands.
4. The University Grant.
5. The Saline Grant.
6. The Des Moines River Grant.
7. The Des Moines River School Lands.
8. The Swamp Land Grant.
9. The Railroad Grant.
10. The Agricultural College Grant.

### I. THE FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND ACRE GRANT.

When the State was admitted into the Union she became entitled to 500,000 acres of land by virtue of an act of Congress, approved September 4, 1841, which granted to each State therein specified 500,000 acres of public land for internal improvements; to each State admitted subsequently to the passage of the act, an amount of land which, with the amount that might have been granted to her as a Territory, would amount to 500,000 acres. All these lands were required to be selected within the limits of the State to which they were granted.

The Constitution of Iowa declares that the proceeds of this grant, together with all lands then granted or to be granted by Congress for the benefit of schools, shall constitute a perpetual fund for the support of schools throughout the State. By an act approved January 15, 1849, the Legislature established a Board of School Fund Commissioners, and to that Board was confided the selection, care and sale of these lands for the benefit of the School Fund. Until 1855, these Commissioners were subordinate to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, but on the 15th of January of that year, they were clothed with exclusive authority in the management and sale of school lands. The office of School Fund Commissioner was abolished March 23, 1858, and that officer in each county was required to transfer all papers to and make full settlement with the County Judge. By this act, County Judges and Township Trustees were made the agents of the State to control and sell the sixteenth sections; but no further provision was made for the sale of the 500,000 acre grant until April 3d, 1860, when the entire management of the school lands was committed to the Boards of Supervisors of the several counties.

#### II. THE SIXTEENTH SECTIONS.

By the provisions of the act of Congress admitting Iowa to the Union, there was granted to the new State the sixteenth section in every township, or where that section had been sold, other lands of like amount for the use of schools. The Constitution of the State provides that the proceeds arising from the sale of these sections shall constitute a part of the permanent school fund. The control and sale of these lands were vested in the School Fund Commissioners of the several counties until March 23, 1858, when they were transferred to the County Judges and Township Trustees, and were finally placed under the supervision of the County Boards of Supervisors in January, 1861.

#### III. THE MORTGAGE SCHOOL LANDS.

These do not belong to any of the grants of land proper. They are lands that have been mortgaged to the school fund, and became school lands when bid off by the State by virtue of a law passed in 1862. Under the provisions of the law regulating the management and investment of the permanent school fund, persons desiring loans from that fund are required to secure the payment thereof with interest at ten per cent. per annum, by promissory notes endorsed by two good sureties and by mortgage on unincumbered real estate, which must be situated in the county where the loan is made, and which must be valued by three appraisers. Making these loans and taking the required securities was made the duty of the County Auditor, who was required to report to the Board of Supervisors at each meeting thereof, all notes, mortgages and abstracts of title connected with the school fund, for examination.

When default was made of payment of money so secured by mortgage, and no arrangement made for extension of time as the law provides, the Board of Supervisors were authorized to bring suit and prosecute it with diligence to secure said fund; and in action in favor of the county for the use of the school fund, an injunction may issue without bonds, and in any such action, when service is made by publication, default and judgment may be entered and enforced without bonds. In case of sale of land on execution founded on any such mortgage, the attorney of the board, or other person duly authorized, shall, on behalf of the State or county for the use of said fund, bid such sum as the interests of said fund may require, and if struck off to the State the land shall be held and disposed of as the other lands belonging to the fund. These lands are known as the Mortgage School Lands, and reports of them, including description and amount, are required to be made to the State Land Office.

#### IV. UNIVERSITY LANDS.

By act of Congress July 20, 1840, a quantity of land, not exceeding two entire townships, was reserved in the Territory of Iowa for the use and support of a university within said Territory when it should become a State. This land was to be located in tracts of not less than an entire section, and could be used for no other purpose than that designated in the grant. In an act supplemental to that for the admission of Iowa, March 3, 1845, the grant was renewed, and it was provided that the lands should be used "solely for the purpose of such university, in such manner as the Legislature may prescribe."

Under this grant there were set apart and approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, for the use of the State, the following lands:

	ACRES.
In the Iowa City Land District, Feb. 29, 1849.....	20,150.49
In the Fairfield Land District, Oct. 17, 1849.....	9,685.20
In the Iowa City Land District, Jan. 28, 1850.....	2,571.81
In the Fairfield Land District, Sept. 10, 1850.....	3,198.20
In the Dubuque Land District, May 19, 1852.....	10,552.24
Total.....	45,957.94

These lands were certified to the State November 19, 1859. The University lands are placed by law under the control and management of the Board of Trustees of the Iowa State University. Prior to 1865 there had been selected and located under 282 patents, 22,892 acres in sixteen counties, and 23,036 acres unpatented, making a total of 45,928 acres.

#### V. SALINE LANDS.

By act of Congress approved March 3, 1845, the State of Iowa was granted the use of the salt springs within her limits, not exceeding twelve. By a subsequent act, approved May 27, 1852,

Congress granted the springs to the State in fee simple, together with six sections of land contiguous to each, to be disposed of as the Legislature might direct. In 1861 the proceeds of these lands then to be sold were constituted a fund for founding and supporting a lunatic asylum, but no sales were made. In 1856 the proceeds of the saline lands were appropriated to the Insane Asylum, repealed in 1858. In 1860, the saline lands and funds were made a part of the permanent fund of the State University. These lands were located in Appanoose, Davis, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe, Van Buren and Wayne counties.

#### VI. THE DES MOINES RIVER GRANT.

By act of Congress, approved August 8, 1846, a grant of land was made for the improvement of the navigation of Des Moines River, as follows:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That there be, and hereby is, granted to said Territory of Iowa for the purpose of aiding said Territory to improve the navigation of the Des Moines River from its mouth to the Racoon Fork (so called) in said Territory, one equal moiety, in alternate sections, of the public lands (remaining unsold and not otherwise disposed of, incumbered or appropriated), in a strip five miles in width on each side of said river, to be selected within said Territory by an agent or agents to be appointed by the Governor thereof, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the lands hereby granted shall not be conveyed or disposed of by said Territory, nor by any State to be formed out of the same, except as said improvement shall progress; that is, the said Territory or State may sell so much of said lands as shall produce the sum of thirty thousand dollars, and then the sales shall cease until the Governor of said Territory or State shall certify the fact to the President of the United States that one-half of said sum has been expended upon said improvements, when the said Territory or State may sell and convey a quantity of the residue of said lands sufficient to replace the amount expended, and thus the sales shall progress as the proceeds thereof shall be expended, and the fact of such expenditure shall be certified as aforesaid.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the said River Des Moines shall be and forever remain a public highway for the use of the Government of the United States, free from any toll or other charge whatever, for any property of the United States or persons in their service passing through or along the same; *Provided always,* That it shall not be competent for the said Territory or future State of Iowa to dispose of said lands, or any of them, at a price lower than, for the time being, shall be the minimum price of other public lands.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That whenever the Territory of Iowa shall be admitted into the Union as a State, the lands hereby granted for the above purpose shall be and become the property of said State for the purpose contemplated in this act, and for no other; *Provided,* the Legislature of the State of Iowa shall accept the said grant for the said purpose. Approved August 8, 1846.

By joint resolution of the General Assembly of Iowa, approved January 9, 1847, the grant was accepted for the purpose specified. By another act, approved February 24, 1847, entitled "An act



creating the Board of Public Works, and providing for the improvement of the Des Moines River," the Legislature provided for a Board consisting of a President, Secretary and Treasurer, to be elected by the people. This Board was elected August 2, 1847, and was organized on the 22d of September following. The same act defined the nature of the improvement to be made, and provided that the work should be paid for from the funds to be derived from the sale of lands to be sold by the Board.

Agents appointed by the Governor selected the sections designated by "odd numbers" throughout the whole extent of the grant, and this selection was approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. But there was a conflict of opinion as to the extent of the grant. It was held by some that it extended from the mouth of the Des Moines River only to the Racoon Forks; others held, as the agents to make selection evidently did, that it extended from the mouth to the headwaters of the river. Richard M. Young, Commissioner of the General Land office, on the 23d of February, 1848, construed the grant to mean that "the State is entitled to the alternate sections within five miles of the Des Moines River, throughout the whole extent of that river within the limits of Iowa. Under this construction, the alternate sections above the Racoon Forks would, of course, belong to the State; but on the 19th of June, 1848, some of these lands were, by proclamation, thrown into market. On the 18th of September, the Board of Public Works filed a remonstrance with the Commissioner of the General Land office. The Board also sent in a protest to the State Land Office, at which the sale was ordered to take place. On the 8th of January, 1849, the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Iowa also protested against the sale, in a communication to Hon. Robert J. Walker, Secretary of the Treasury, to which the Secretary replied, concurring in the opinion that the grant extended the whole length of the Des Moines River in Iowa.

On the 1st of June, 1849, the Commissioner of the General Land Office directed the Register and Receiver of the Land Office at Iowa City "to withhold from sale all lands situated in the odd numbered sections within five miles on each side of the Des Moines River above the Racoon Forks." March 13, 1850, the Commissioner of the General Land Office submitted to the Secretary of the Interior a list "showing the tracts falling within the limits of the Des Moines River grant, above the Racoon Forks, etc., under the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury, of March 2, 1849," and on the 6th of April following Mr. Ewing, then Secretary of the Interior, reversed the decision of Secretary Walker, but ordered the lands to be withheld from sale until Congress could have an opportunity to pass an explanatory act. The Iowa authorities appealed from this decision to the President (Taylor), who referred the matter to the Attorney General (Mr.

Johnson). On the 19th of July, Mr. Johnson submitted as his opinion, that by the terms of the grant itself, it extended to the very source of the Des Moines, but before his opinion was published President Taylor died. When Mr. Tyler's cabinet was formed, the question was submitted to the new Attorney General (Mr. Crittenden), who, on the 30th of June, 1851, reported that in his opinion the grant did not extend above the Raccoon Forks. Mr. Stewart, Secretary of the Interior, concurred with Mr. Crittenden at first, but subsequently consented to lay the whole subject before the President and Cabinet, who decided in favor of the State.

October 29, 1851, Mr. Stewart directed the Commissioner of the General Land Office to "submit for his approval such lists as had been prepared, and to proceed to report for like approval lists of the alternate sections claimed by the State of Iowa above the Raccoon Forks, as far as the surveys have progressed, or may hereafter be completed and returned." And on the following day, three lists of these lands were prepared in the General Land Office.

The lands approved and certified to the State of Iowa under this grant, and all lying above the Raccoon Forks, are as follows:

By Secretary Stewart, Oct. 30, 1851.....	81,707.93 acres.
March 10, 1852.....	143,908.37 "
By Secretary McLellan, Dec. 17, 1853.....	33,142.43 "
Dec. 30, 1853.....	12,813.51 "

Total.....271,572.24 acres.

The Commissioners and Register of the Des Moines River Improvement, in their report to the Governor, November 30, 1852, estimate the total amount of lands then available for the work, including those in possession of the State and those to be surveyed and approved, at nearly a million acres. The indebtedness then standing against the fund was about \$108,000, and the Commissioners estimated the work to be done would cost about \$1,200,000.

January 19, 1853, the Legislature authorized the Commissioners to sell "any or all the lands which have or may hereafter be granted, for not less than \$1,300,000."

On the 24th of January, 1853, the General Assembly provided for the election of a Commissioner by the people, and appointed two Assistant Commissioners, with authority to make a contract, selling the lands of the Improvement for \$1,300,000. This new Board made a contract, June 9, 1855, with the Des Moines Navigation & Railroad Company, agreeing to sell *all* the lands donated to the State by Act of Congress of August 8, 1846, which the State had not sold prior to December 23, 1853, for \$1,300,000, to be expended on the improvement of the river, and in paying the indebtedness then due. This contract was duly reported to the Governor and General Assembly.

By an act approved January 25, 1855, the Commissioner and Register of the Des Moines River Improvement were authorized to negotiate with the Des Moines Navigation & Railroad Company for the purchase of lands in Webster County, which had been sold by the School Fund Commissioner as school lands, but which had been certified to the State as Des Moines River lands, and had, therefore, become the property of the Company, under the provisions of its contract with the State.

March 21, 1856, the old question of the extent of the grant was again raised, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office decided that it was limited to the Raccoon Fork. Appeal was made to the Secretary of the Interior, and by him the matter was referred to the Attorney General, who decided that the grant extended to the northern boundary of the State; the State relinquished its claim to the lands lying along the river in Minnesota, and the vexed question was supposed to be finally settled.

The land which had been certified, as well as those extending to the northern boundary within the limits of the grant, were reserved from pre-emption and sale by the General Land Commissioner, to satisfy the grant of August 8, 1846, and they were treated as having passed to the State, which from time to time sold portions of them prior to their final transfer to the Des Moines Navigation & Railroad Company, applying the proceeds thereof to the improvement of the river in compliance with the terms of the grant. Prior to the final sale to the Company, June 9, 1854, the State had sold about 327,000 acres, of which amount 58,830 acres were located above the Raccoon Fork. The last certificate of the General Land Office bears date December 30, 1853.

After June 9th, 1854, the Des Moines Navigation & Railroad Company carried on the work under its contract with the State. As the improvement progressed, the State, from time to time, by its authorized officers, issued to the Company, in payment for said work, certificates for land. But the General Land Office ceased to certify lands under the grant of 1846. The State had made no other provision for paying for the improvements, and disagreements and misunderstanding arose between the State authorities and the Company.

March 22, 1858, a joint resolution was passed by the Legislature submitting a proposition for final settlement to the Company, which was accepted. The Company paid to the State \$20,000 in cash, and released and conveyed the dredge boat and materials named in the resolution; and the State, on the 3d day of May, 1858, executed to the Des Moines Navigation & Railroad Company fourteen deeds or patents to the lands, amounting to 256,703.64 acres. These deeds were intended to convey all the lands of this grant certified to the State by the General Government not previously sold; but, as if for the purpose of covering any tract or parcel that might have been omitted, the State made another deed

of conveyance on the 18th day of May, 1858. These fifteen deeds, it is claimed, by the Company, convey 266,108 acres, of which about 53,367 are below the Raccoon Fork, and the balance, 212,741 acres, are above that point.

Besides the lands deeded to the Company, the State had deeded to individual purchasers 58,830 acres above the Raccoon Fork, making an aggregate of 271,571 acres, deeded above the Fork, all of which had been certified to the State by the Federal Government.

By act approved March 28, 1858, the Legislature donated the remainder of the grant to the Keokuk, Fort Des Moines & Minnesota Railroad Company, upon condition that said Company assumed all liabilities resulting from the Des Moines River improvement operations, reserving 50,000 acres of the land in security for the payment thereof, and for the completion of the locks and dams at Bentonsport, Crotton, Keosauqua and Plymouth. For every three thousand dollars' worth of work done on the locks and dams, and for every three thousand dollars paid by the Company of the liabilities above mentioned, the Register of the State Land Office was instructed to certify to the Company 1,000 acres of the 50,000 acres reserved for these purposes. Up to 1865, there had been presented by the Company, under the provisions of the act of 1858, and allowed, claims amounting to \$109,579.37, about seventy-five per cent. of which had been settled.

After the passage of the act above noticed, the question of the extent of the original grant was again mooted, and at the December term of the Supreme Court of the United States, in 1859-60, a decision was rendered declaring that the grant did *not* extend above Raccoon Fork, and that all certificates of land *above* the Fork had been issued without authority of law and were, therefore, void (see 23 How., 66).

The State of Iowa had disposed of a large amount of land without authority, according to this decision, and appeal was made to Congress for relief, which was granted on the 3d day of March, 1861, in a joint resolution relinquishing to the State all the title which the United States then still retained in the tracts of land along the Des Moines River above Raccoon Fork, that had been improperly certified to the State by the Department of the Interior, and which is now held by *bona fide* purchasers under the State of Iowa.

In confirmation of this relinquishment, by act approved July 12, 1862, Congress enacted:

That the grant of lands to the then Territory of Iowa for the improvement of the Des Moines River, made by the act of August 8, 1846, is hereby extended so as to include the alternate sections (designated by odd numbers) lying within five miles of said river, between the Raccoon Fork and the northern boundary of said State; such lands are to be held and applied in accordance with the provisions of the original grant, except that the consent of Congress is hereby given to the application of a portion thereof to aid in the construction of the

Keokuk, Fort Des Moines & Minnesota Railroad, in accordance with the provisions of the act of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa approved March 22, 1858. And if any of the said lands shall have been sold or otherwise disposed of by the United States before the passage of this act, except those released by the United States to the grantees of the State of Iowa, under joint resolution of March 3, 1861, the Secretary of the Interior is hereby directed to set apart an equal amount of lands within said State to be certified in lieu thereof: *Provided*, that if the State shall have sold and conveyed any portion of the lands lying within the limits of the grant the title of which has proved invalid, any lands which shall be certified to said State in lieu thereof by virtue of the provisions of this act, shall inure to and be held as a trust fund for the benefit of the person, or persons, respectively, whose titles shall have failed as aforesaid.

The grant of lands by the above act of Congress was accepted by a joint resolution of the General Assembly, Sept. 11, 1862, in extra session. On the same day, the Governor was authorized to appoint one or more Commissioners to select the lands in accordance with the grant. These Commissioners were instructed to report their selections to the Registrar of the State Land Office. The lands so selected were to be held for the purposes of the grant, and were not to be disposed of until further legislation should be had. D. W. Kilburne, of Lee County, was appointed Commissioner, and, on the 25th day of April, 1864, the General Land Officer authorized the selection of 300,000 acres from the vacant public lands as a part of the grant of July 12, 1862, and the selections were made in the Fort Dodge and Sioux City Land Districts.

Many difficulties, controversies and conflicts, in relation to claims and titles, grew out of this grant, and these difficulties were enhanced by the uncertainty of its limits until the act of Congress of July, 1862. But the General Assembly sought, by wise and appropriate legislation, to protect the integrity of titles derived from the State. Especially was it the determination to protect the actual settlers, who had paid their money and made improvements prior to the final settlement of the limits of the grant by Congress.

#### VII.—THE DES MOINES RIVER SCHOOL LANDS.

These lands constituted a part of the 500,000 acre grant made by Congress in 1841; including 28,378.46 acres in Webster County, selected by the Agent of the State under that grant, and approved by the Commissioner of the General Land Office February 20, 1851. They were ordered into the market June 6, 1853, by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, who authorized John Tolman, School Fund Commissioner for Webster County, to sell them as school lands. Subsequently, when the act of 1846 was construed to extend the Des Moines River grant above Racoon Fork, it was held that the odd numbered sections of these lands within five miles of the river were appropriated by that act, and on the 30th day of December, 1853, 12,813.51 acres were set apart and approved to the State by the Secretary of the Interior,

as a part of the Des Moines River grant. January 6, 1854, the Commissioner of the General Land Office transmitted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction a certified copy of the lists of these lands, indorsed by the Secretary of the Interior. Prior to this action of the Department, however, Mr. Tolman had sold to individual purchasers 3,194.28 acres as school lands, and their titles were, of course, killed. For their relief, an act, approved April 2, 1860, provided that, upon application and proper showing, these purchasers should be entitled to draw from the State Treasury the amount they had paid, with ten per cent. interest, on the contract to purchase made with Mr. Tolman. Under this act, five applications were made prior to 1864, and the applicants received, in the aggregate, \$949.53.

By an act approved April 7, 1862, the Governor was forbidden to issue to the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad Company any certificate of the completion of any part of said road, or any conveyance of lands, until the company should execute and file, in the State Land office, a release of its claim—first to certain swamp lands; second, to the Des Moines River Lands sold by Tolman; third, to certain other river lands. That act provided that “the said company shall transfer their interests in those tracts of land in Webster and Hamilton Counties heretofore sold by John Tolman, School Fund Commissioner, to the Register of the State Land Office in trust, to enable said Register to carry out and perform said contracts in all cases when he is called upon by the parties interested to do so, before the 1st day of January, A. D., 1864.

The company filed its release to the Tolman lands, in the Land Office, February 27, 1864, at the same time entered its protest that it had no claim upon them, never had pretended to have, and had never sought to claim them. The Register of the State Land Office, under the advice of the Attorney General, decided that patents would be issued to the Tolman purchasers in all cases where contracts had been made prior to December 23, 1853, and remaining uncanceled under the act of 1860. But before any were issued, on the 27th of August, 1864, the Des Moines Navigation and Railroad Company commenced a suit in Chancery, in the District Court of Polk County, to enjoin the issue of such patents. On the 30th of August, an *ex parte* injunction was issued. In January, 1868, Mr. J. A. Harvey, Register of the Land Office, filed in the court an elaborate answer to plaintiffs’ petition, denying that the company had any right to or title in the lands. Mr. Harvey’s successor, Mr. C. C. Carpenter, filed a still more exhaustive answer February 10, 1868. August 3, 1868, the District Court dissolved the injunction. The company appealed to the Supreme Court, where the decision of the lower court was affirmed in December, 1869.

## VIII. SWAMP LAND GRANT.

An act of Congress, approved March 28, 1850, to enable Arkansas and other States to reclaim swampy lands within their limits, granted all the swamp and overflowed lands remaining unsold within their respective limits to the several States. Although the total amount claimed by Iowa under this act does not exceed 4,000,000 acres, it has, like the Des Moines River and some of the land grants, cost the State considerable trouble and expense, and required a deal of legislation. The State expended large sums of money in making the selections, securing proofs, etc., but the General Government appeared to be laboring under the impression that Iowa was not acting in good faith; that she had selected a large amount of lands under the swamp land grant, transferred her interest to counties, and counties to private speculators, and the General Land office permitted contests as to the character of the lands already selected by the Agents of the State as "swamp lands." Congress, by joint resolution December 18, 1856, and by act March 3, 1857, saved the State from the fatal result of this ruinous policy. Many of these lands were selected in 1854 and 1855, immediately after several remarkably wet seasons, and it was but natural that some portions of the selections would not appear swampy after a few dry seasons. Some time after these first selections were made, persons desired to enter parcels of the so-called swamp lands and offering to prove them to be dry. In such cases the General Land office ordered hearing before the local land officers, and if they decided the land to be dry, it was permitted to be entered and the claim of the State rejected. Speculators took advantage of this. Affidavits were bought of irresponsible and reckless men, who, for a few dollars, would confidently testify to the character of lands they never saw. These applications multiplied until they covered 3,000,000 acres. It was necessary that Congress should confirm all these selections to the State, that this gigantic scheme of fraud and plunder might be stopped. The act of Congress of March 3, 1857, was designed to accomplish this purpose. But the Commissioner of the General Land office held that it was only a qualified confirmation and under this construction sought to sustain the action of the Department in rejecting the claim of the State, and certifying them under act of May 15, 1856, under which the railroad companies claimed all swamp land in odd numbered sections within the limits of their respective roads. This action led to serious complications. When the railroad grant was made, it was not intended, nor was it understood that it included any of the swamp lands. These were already disposed of by previous grant. Nor did the companies expect to receive any of them, but under the decision of the Department adverse to the State the way was opened, and they were not slow to enter their claims. March 4, 1862, the At-

torney General of the State submitted to the General Assembly an opinion that the railroad companies were not entitled even to contest the right of the State to these lands, under the swamp land grant. A letter from the Acting Commissioner of the General Land Office expressed the same opinion, and the General Assembly by joint resolution, approved April 7, 1862, expressly repudiated the acts of the railroad companies, and disclaimed any intention to claim these lands under any other than the act of Congress of September 28, 1850. A great deal of legislation has been found necessary in relation to these swamp lands.

#### IX. THE RAILROAD GRANT.

One of the most important grants of public lands to Iowa for purposes of internal improvement was that known as the "Railroad Grant," by act of Congress, approved May 15, 1856. This act granted to the State of Iowa, for the purpose of aiding in the construction of railroads from Burlington, on the Mississippi River, to a point on the Missouri River, near the mouth of Platte River; from the city of Davenport, via Iowa City and Fort Des Moines to Council Bluffs; from Lyons City northwesterly to a point of intersection with the main line of the Iowa Central Air Line Railroad, near Maquoketa; thence on said main line, running as near as practicable to the Forty-second Parallel; across the said State of Iowa to the Missouri River; from the city of Dubuque to a point on the Missouri River near Sioux City, with a branch from the mouth of the Tete des Morts, to the nearest point on said road, to be completed as soon as the main road is completed to that point, every alternate section of land designated by odd numbers, for six sections in width, on each side of said roads. It was also provided that if it should appear, when the lines of those roads were definitely fixed, that the United States had sold, or right of pre-emption had attached to any portion of said land, the State was authorized to select a quantity equal thereto, in alternate sections, or parts of sections, within fifteen miles of the line so located. The lands remaining to the United States within six miles on each side of said roads were not to be sold for less than the double minimum price of the public lands when sold, nor were any of said lands to become subject to private entry until they had been first offered at public sale at the increased price.

Section 4 of the act provided that the lands granted to said State shall be disposed of by said State only in the manner following, that is to say: "That a quantity of land not exceeding one hundred and twenty sections for each of said roads, and included within a continuous length of twenty miles of each of said roads, may be sold; and when the Governor of said State shall certify to the Secretary of the Interior that any twenty continuous miles of any of said roads is completed, then another quantity of land hereby



granted, not to exceed one hundred and twenty sections for each of said roads having twenty continuous miles completed as aforesaid, and included within a continuous length of twenty miles of each of such roads, may be sold; and so from time to time until said roads are completed, and if any of said roads are not completed within ten years, no further sale said shall be made, and the lands unsold shall revert to the United States."

At a special session of the General Assembly of Iowa, by act approved July 14, 1856, the grant was accepted and the lands were granted by the State to the several railroad companies named, provided that the lines of their respective roads should be definitely fixed and located before April 1, 1857; and provided, further, that if either of said companies should fail to have seventy-five miles of road completed and equipped by the 1st day of December, 1859, and its entire road completed by December 1, 1865, it should be competent for the State of Iowa to resume all rights to lands remaining undisposed of by the company so failing.

The railroad companies, with the single exception of the Iowa Central Air Line, accepted the several grants in accordance with the provisions of the above act, located their respective roads and selected their lands. The grant to the Iowa Central was again granted to the Cedar Rapids & Missouri River Railroad Company, which accepted it.

By act, approved April 7, 1862, the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad Company was required to execute a release to the State of certain swamp and school lands, included within the limits of its grant, in compensation for an extension of the time fixed for the completion of its road.

A careful examination of the act of Congress does not reveal any special reference to railroad *companies*. The lands were granted to the *State*, and the act evidently contemplated the sale of them *by the State*, and the appropriation of the proceeds to aid in the construction of certain lines of railroad within its limits. Section 4 of the act clearly defines the authority of the State in disposing of the lands.

Lists of all the lands embraced by the grant were made, and certified to the State by the proper authorities. Under an act of Congress approved August 3, 1864, entitled, "*An act to vest in the several States and Territories the title in fee of the lands which have been or may be certified to them,*" these certified lists, the originals of which are filed in the General Land Office, conveyed to the State "the fee simple title to all the lands embraced in such lists that are of the character contemplated" by the terms of the act making the grant, and "intended to be granted thereby; but where lands embraced in such lists are not of the character embraced by such act of Congress, and were not intended to be granted thereby, said lists, so far as these lands are concerned, shall be perfectly null and void; and no right, title, claim or in-

terest shall be conveyed thereby." Those certified lists made under the act of May 15, 1856, were forty-three in number, viz.: For the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, nine; for the Mississippi & Missouri Railroad, eleven; for the Iowa Central Air Line, thirteen; and for the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad, ten. The lands thus approved to the State were as follows:

Burlington & Missouri River R. R.....	287,095.34 acres
Mississippi & Missouri River R. R.....	774,674.36 "
Cedar Rapids & Missouri River R. R.....	775,454.19 "
Dubuque & Sioux City R. R.....	1,226,558.32 "

A portion of these had been selected as swamp lands by the State, under the act of September 28, 1850, and these, by the terms of the act of August 3, 1854, could not be turned over to the railroads unless the claim of the State to them as swamp was first rejected. It was not possible to determine from the records of the State Land Office the extent of the conflicting claims arising under the two grants, as copies of the swamp land selections in some of the counties were not filed of record. The Commissioner of the General Land Office, however, prepared lists of the lands claimed by the State as swamp under the act of September 28, 1850, and also claimed by the railroad companies under act of May 15, 1856, amounting to 553,293.33 acres, the claim to which as swamp had been rejected by the Department. These were consequently certified the State as railroad lands. There was no mode other than the act of July, 1856, prescribed for transferring the title to these lands from the State to the companies. The courts had decided that, for the purposes of the grant, the lands belonged to the State, and to her the companies should look for their titles. It was generally accepted that the act of the Legislature of July, 1856, was all that was necessary to complete the transfer of title. It was assumed that all the rights and powers conferred upon the State by the act of Congress of May 14, 1856, were by the act of the General Assembly transferred to the companies; in other words that it was designed to put the companies in the place of the State as the grantees from Congress—and, therefore, that which perfected the title thereto to the State perfected the title to the companies by virtue of the act of July, 1856. One of the companies, however, the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, was not entirely satisfied with this construction. Its managers thought that some further and specific action of the State authorities in addition to the act of the Legislature was necessary to complete their title. This induced Gov. Lowe to attach to the certified lists his official certificate, under the broad seal of the State. On the 9th of November, 1859, the Governor thus certified to them (commencing at the Missouri River) 187,207.44 acres, and December 27th, 43,775.70 acres, an aggregate of 231,073.14 acres. These were the only lands under the grant that were certified by the State authorities with any design of perfecting the title already

vested in the company by the act of July, 1856. The lists which were afterward furnished to the company were simply certified by the Governor as being correct copies of the lists received by the State from the United States General Land Office. These subsequent lists embraced lands that had been claimed by the State under the Swamp Land Grant.

It was urged against the claim of the Companies that the effect of the act of the Legislature was simply to substitute them for the State as parties to the grant. 1st. That the lands were granted to the State to be held in trust for the accomplishment of a specific purpose, and therefore the State could not part with the title until that purpose should have been accomplished. 2d. That it was not the intention of the act of July 14, 1856, to deprive the State of the control of the lands, but on the contrary that she should retain supervision of them and the right to withdraw all rights and powers and resume the title conditionally conferred by that act upon the companies in the event of their failure to complete their part of the contract. 3d. That the certified lists from the General Land Office vested the title in the State only by virtue of the act of Congress approved August 3, 1854. The State Land Office held that the proper construction of the act of July 14, 1856, when accepted by the companies was that it became a *conditional contract* that might ripen into a positive sale of the lands as from time to time the work should progress, and as the State thereby became authorized by the express terms of the grant to sell them.

This appears to have been the correct construction of the act, but by a subsequent act of Congress, approved June 2, 1864, amending the act of 1856, the terms of the grant were changed, and numerous controversies arose between the companies and the State.

The ostensible purpose of this additional act was to allow the Davenport & Council Bluffs Railroad "to modify or change the location of the uncompleted portion of its line," to run through the town of Newton, Jasper county, or as nearly as practicable to that point. The original grant had been made to the State to aid in the construction of railroads within its limits, and not to the companies, but Congress, in 1864, appears to have been utterly ignorant of what had been done under the act of 1856, or, if not, to have utterly disregarded it. The State had accepted the original grant. The Secretary of the Interior had already certified to the State all the lands intended to be included in the grant within fifteen miles of the lines of the several railroads. It will be remembered that section 4, of the act of May 15, 1856, specifies the manner of sale of these lands from time to time as work on the railroads should progress, and also provided that "if any of said roads are not completed within ten years, no *further* sale shall be made, and the lands *unsold shall revert to the United States.*" Having vested the title to these lands in trust, in the State of Iowa,

it is plain that until the expiration of the ten years there could be no reversion, and the State, not the United States, must control them until the grant should expire by limitation. The United States authorities could not rightfully require the Secretary of the Interior to certify directly to the companies any portion of the lands already certified to the State. And yet Congress, by its act of June 2, 1864, provided that whenever the Davenport & Council Bluffs Railroad Company should file in the General Land Office, at Washington, a map definitely showing such new location, the Secretary of the Interior should cause to be certified and conveyed to said company, from time to time, as the road progressed, out of any of the lands belonging to the United States, not sold, reserved or otherwise disposed of, or to which a pre-emption claim or right of homestead had not attached, and on which a *bona fide* settlement and improvement had not been made under color of title derived from the United States or from the State of Iowa, within six miles of such newly located line, an amount of land per mile equal to that originally authorized to be granted to aid in the construction of said road by the act to which this was an amendment.

The term "out of any lands *belonging to the United States*, not sold, reserved or otherwise disposed of, etc.," would seem to indicate that Congress did intend to grant lands already granted, but when it declared that the Company should have an amount per mile *equal* to that originally *authorized to be granted*, it is plain that the framers of the bill were ignorant of the real terms of the original grant, or that they designed that the United States should *resume* the title it had already parted with two years before the lands could revert to the United States under the original act, which was not repealed.

A similar change was made in relation to the Cedar Rapids & Missouri Railroad, and dictated the conveyance of lands in a similar manner.

Like provision was made for the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad, and the Company was permitted to change the location of its line between Fort Dodge and Sioux City, so as to secure the best route between those points; but this change of location was not to impair the right to the land granted in the original act, nor did it change the location of those lands.

By the same act, the Mississippi & Missouri Railroad Company was authorized to transfer and assign all or any part of the grant to any other company or person, "if, in the opinion of said Company, the construction of said railroad across the State of Iowa would be thereby sooner and more satisfactorily completed; but such assignee should not in any case be released from the liabilities and conditions accompanying this grant, nor acquire perfect title in any other manner than the same would have been acquired by the original grantee."

Still further, the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was not forgotten, and was, by the same act, empowered to receive an amount of land per mile equal to that mentioned in the original act, and if that could not be found within the limits of six miles from the line of said road, then such selection might be made along such line within twenty miles thereof out of any public lands belonging to the United States, not sold, reserved or otherwise disposed of, or to which a pre-emption claim or right of homestead had not attached.

Those acts of Congress, which evidently originated in the "lobby," occasioned much controversy and trouble. The Department of the Interior, however, recognizing the fact that when the Secretary had certified the lands to the State, under the act of 1856, that act divested the United States of title, under the vesting act of August, 1854, refused to review its action, and also refused to order any and all investigations for establishing adverse claims (except in pre-emption cases), on the ground that the United States had parted with the title, and, therefore, could exercise no control over the land.

May 12, 1864, before the passage of the amendatory act above described, Congress granted to the State of Iowa, to aid in the construction of a railroad from McGregor to Sioux City, and for the benefit of the McGregor Western Railroad Company every alternate section of land, designated by odd numbers, for ten sections in width on each side of the proposed road, reserving the right to substitute other lands, whenever it was found that the grant infringed upon pre-empted lands, or on lands that had been reserved or disposed of for any other purpose. In such cases, the Secretary of the Interior was instructed to select, in lieu, lands belonging to the United States lying nearest to the limits specified.

#### X. AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND FARM LAND.

An Agricultural College and Model Farm was established by act of the General Assembly, approved March 22, 1858. By the eleventh section of the act, the proceeds of the five-section grant made for the purpose of aiding in the erection of public buildings was appropriated, subject to the approval of Congress, together with all lands that Congress might thereafter grant to the State for the purpose for the benefit of the institution. On the 23d of March, by joint resolution, the Legislature asked the consent of Congress to the proposed transfer, By act approved July 11, 1862, Congress removed the restrictions imposed in the "Five-section grant," and authorized the General Assembly to make such disposition of the lands as should be deemed best for the interests of the State. By these several acts the five sections of land in Jasper County certified to the State to aid in the erection of public buildings under the act of March 3, 1845, entitled: "An act supplemental to the act for the admission of the States of

Iowa and Florida into the Union," were fully appropriated for the benefit of the Iowa Agricultural College and Farm. The institution is located in Story County. Seven hundred and twenty-one acres in that and two hundred in Boone County were donated to it by individuals interested in the success of the enterprise.

By act of Congress approved July 2, 1852, an appropriation was made to each State and Territory of 30,000 acres for each Senator and Representative in Congress to which, by the apportionment under the census of 1850, they were respectfully entitled. This grant was made for the purpose of endowing colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts.

Iowa accepted this grant by an act passed at an extra session of its Legislature, approved Sept 11, 1862, entitled: "An act to accept of the grant, and carry into execution the trust conferred upon the State of Iowa by an act of Congress entitled 'An act granting public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agricultural and the mechanic arts, approved July 2, 1862.'" This act made it the duty of the Governor to appoint an agent to select and locate the lands, and provided that none should be selected that were claimed by any county as swamp lands. The agent was required to make report of his doings to the Governor, who was instructed to submit the list of selections to the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural College for their approval. One thousand dollars were appropriated to carry the law into effect. The State having two Senators and six Representatives in Congress, was entitled to 240,000 acres of land under this grant, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining an Agricultural College. Peter Melendy, Esq., of Black Hawk County, was appointed to make the selections, and during August, September and December, 1863, located them in the Fort Dodge, Des Moines and Sioux City Land Districts. December 8, 1864, these selections were certified by the Commissioner of the General land Office, and were approved to the State by the Secretary of the Interior December 13, 1864. The title to these lands were vested in the State in fee simple, and conflicted with no other claims under other grants.

The agricultural lands were approved to the State as 240,000.96 acres; but 35,691.66 acres were located within railroad limits, which were computed at the rate of two acres for one, the actual amount of land approved to the State under this grant was only 204,309.30 acres, located as follows:

In Des Moines Land District.....	6,804.96 acres.
In Sioux City Land District.....	59,025.37 "
In Fort Dodge Land District.....	138,478.97 "

By act of the General Assembly, approved March 29, 1864, entitled, "An act authorizing the Trustees of the Iowa State Agricultural College and Farm, to sell all lands acquired, granted, donated or appropriated for the benefit of said College, and to make

an investment of the proceeds thereof," all these lands were granted to the Agricultural College and Farm, and the Trustees were authorized to take possession and sell or lease them. There was then under the control of the Trustees, lands as follows:

Under the act of July 2, 1852.....	304,309.30	acres.
Of the five-section grant.....	3,200.00	"
Lands donated in Story County.....	721.00	"
Lands donated in Boone County.....	200.00	"

Total.....208,430.30 acres.

The Trustees opened an office at Fort Dodge, and appointed Hon. G. W. Bassett their agent for the sale of these lands.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The germ of the free public school system of Iowa, which now ranks second to none in the United States, was planted by the first settlers. They had migrated to the "Beautiful Land" from other and older States, where the common school system had been tested by many years' experience, bringing with them some knowledge of its advantages, which they determined should be enjoyed by the children of the land of their adoption. The system thus planted was expanded and improved in the broad fields of the West, until now it is justly considered one of the most complete, comprehensive and liberal in the country.

Nor is it to be wondered at when it is remembered humble log school houses were built almost as soon as the log cabin of the earliest settlers were occupied by their brave builders. In the lead mining regions of the State, the first to be occupied by the white race, the hardy pioneers provided the means for the education of their children even before they had comfortable dwellings for their families. School teachers were among the first immigrants to Iowa. Wherever a little settlement was made, the school house was the first united public act of the settlers; and the rude primitive structures of the early time only disappeared when the communities had increased in population and wealth, and were able to replace them with more commodious and comfortable buildings. Perhaps in no single instance has the magnificent progress of the State of Iowa been more marked and rapid than in her common school system and in her school houses, which, long since, superceded the log cabins of the first settlers. To-day, the school houses which everywhere dot the broad and fertile prairies of Iowa are unsurpassed by those of any other State in the great Union. More especially is this true in all her cities and villages, where liberal and lavish appropriations have been voted, by a generous people, for the erection of large commodious and elegant buildings, furnished with all the modern improvements, and costing from \$10,000 to \$60,000 each. The people of the State have expended more than \$10,000,000 for the erection of public school buildings.

The first house erected in Iowa was a log cabin at Dubuque, built by James L. Langworthy and a few other miners, in the Autumn of 1833.

Mrs. Caroline Dexter commenced teaching in Dubuque in March, 1836. She was the first female teacher there, and probably the first in Iowa. The first tax for the support of schools at Dubuque was levied in 1840.

Among the first buildings erected at Burlington was a commodious log school house in 1834, in which Mr. Johnson Pierson taught the first school in the Winter of 1834-5.

The first school in Muscatine County was taught by George Bungardner, in the Spring of 1837, and in 1839, a log school house was erected in Muscatine, which served for a long time for school house, church and public hall. The first school in Davenport was taught in 1838. In Fairfield Miss Clarissa Sawyer, James F. Chambers and Mrs. Reed taught school in 1839.

When the site of Iowa City was selected as the capital of the Territory of Iowa, in May, 1839, it was a perfect wilderness. The first sale of lots took place August 18, 1839, and before January 1, 1840, about twenty families had settled within the limits of the town; and during the same year, Mr. Jesse Berry opened a school in a small frame building he had erected, on what is now College street.

The first settlement in Monroe County was made in 1843, by Mr. John R. Gray, about two miles from the present site of Edyville; and in the Summer of 1844, a log school house was built, and the first school was opened. About a year after the first cabin was built at Oskaloosa, a log school house was built.

At Fort Des Moines, now the Capital of the State, the first school was taught in the winter of 1846-7.

The first school in Pottawattamie County was opened at Council Point, prior to 1849.

The first school in Decorah was taught in 1853. In Osceola, the first school was opened by Mr. D. W. Scoville. The first school at Fort Dodge was taught in 1855, by Cyrus C. Carpenter, since Governor of the State. In Crawford County the first school house was built in Mason's Grove in 1856, and Morris McHenry first occupied it as teacher.

During the first twenty years of the history of Iowa, the log school houses prevailed, and in 1861, there were 893 of these primitive structures in use for school purposes in the State. Since that time they have been gradually disappearing. In 1865, there were 796; in 1870, 336; and in 1875, 121.

Iowa Territory was created July 3, 1838. January 1, 1839, the Territorial Legislature passed an act providing that "there shall be established a common school, or schools, in each of the counties in this Territory, which shall be open and free for every class of white citizens between the ages of five and twenty-one years."



The second section of the act provided that "the County Board shall, from time to time, form such districts in their respective counties whenever a petition may be presented for the purpose by a majority of the voters resident within such contemplated district." These districts were governed by boards of trustees, usually of three persons; each district was required to maintain school at least three months in every year; and later, laws were enacted providing for county school taxes for the payment of teachers, and that whatever additional sum might be required should be assessed upon the parents sending, in proportion to the length of time sent.

When Iowa Territory became a State, in 1846, with a population of 100,000 and with 20,000 pupils within its limits, about four hundred school districts had been organized. In 1850, there were 1,200, and in 1857, the number had increased to 3,265.

In March, 1858, the Seventh General Assembly enacted that "each civil township is declared a school district," and provided that these should be divided into sub-districts. This law went into force March 20, 1858, and reduced the number of school districts from about 3,500 to less than 900.

The change of school organization resulted in a very material reduction of the expenditures for the compensation of District Secretaries and Treasurers. An effort was made for several years, from 1867 to 1872, to abolish the sub-district system. The Legislature of 1870, provided for the formation of independent districts from the sub-districts of district townships. The system of graded schools was inaugurated in 1849; and new schools, in which more than one teacher is employed, are universally graded.

The first official mention of Teachers' Institutes in the educational records of Iowa, occurs in the annual report of Hon. Thomas H. Benton, Jr., made December 2, 1850.

In March, 1858, an act was passed authorizing the holding of Teachers' Institutes for periods not less than six working days, whenever not less than thirty teachers should desire. The Superintendent was authorized to expend not exceeding \$100 for any one Institute, to be paid out by the County Superintendent as the Institute might direct for teachers and lecturers, and one thousand dollars was appropriated to defray the expenses of these Institutes.

The Board of Education at its first session, commencing December 6, 1858, enacted a code of school laws which retained the existing provisions for Teachers' Institutes. In March, 1860, the General Assembly amended the act of the Board by appropriating "a sum not exceeding fifty dollars annually for one such Institute, held as provided by law in each county."

By act approved March 19, 1874, Normal Institutes were established in each county, to be held annually by the County Superintendent, and in 1876 the Sixteenth General Assembly established

the first permanent State Normal School at Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, appropriating the building and property of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at that place for that purpose.

The public school system of Iowa is admirably organized, and if the various officers who are entrusted with the educational interests of the commonwealth are faithful and competent, should and will constantly improve.

"The public schools are supported by funds arising from several sources. The sixteenth section of every Congressional Township was set apart by the General Government for school purposes, being one-thirty-sixth part of all of the lands of the State. The minimum price of these lands was fixed at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. Congress also made an additional donation to the State of five hundred thousand acres, and an appropriation of five per cent. on all the sales of public lands to the school fund. The State gives to this fund the proceeds of the sales of all lands which escheat to it; the proceeds of all fines for the violation of the liquor and criminal laws. The money derived from these sources constitutes the permanent school fund of the State, which cannot be diverted to any other purpose. The penalties collected by the courts for fines and forfeits go to the school fund in the counties where collected. The proceeds of the sale of lands and the five per cent. fund go into the State Treasury, and the State distributes these proceeds to the several counties according to their request, and the counties loan the money to individuals for long terms at eight per cent. interest, on security of land valued at three times the amount of the loan, exclusive of all buildings and improvements thereon. The interest on these loans is paid into the State Treasury, and becomes the available school fund of the State. The counties are responsible to the State for all money so loaned, and the State is likewise responsible to the school fund for all moneys transferred to the counties. The interest on these loans is apportioned by the State Auditor semi-annually to the several counties of the State, in proportion to the number of persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The counties also levy an annual tax for school purposes, which is apportioned to the several district townships in the same way. A district tax is also levied for the same purpose. The money arising from these several sources constitutes the support of the public schools, and is sufficient to enable every sub-district in the State to afford from six to nine months' school each year."

The taxes levied for the support of schools are self-imposed. Under the admirable school laws of the State, no taxes can be legally assessed or collected for the erection of school houses until they have been ordered by the election of the district at a school meeting legally called. The school houses of Iowa are the pride of the State and an honor to the people. If they have been sometimes built at a prodigal expense, the tax-payers have no one to

blame but themselves. The teachers' and contingent funds are determined by the Directors, under certain legal restrictions. These boards are elected annually, except in the independent districts, in which the board may be entirely changed every three years. The only exception to this mode of levying taxes for support of schools is the county school tax, which is determined by the County Board of Supervisors. The tax is from one to three mills on the dollar; usually, however, but one.

In his admirable message to the General Assembly, just previous to retiring from the Gubernatorial chair, Gov. Gear has the following to say concerning the public schools of Iowa:

"The number of school children reported is 594,750. Of this number 384,192 are, by approximation, between the ages of six and sixteen years. The number of all ages enrolled in the schools is 431,513, which shows that much the greater proportion of children of school age avail themselves of the benefits of our educational system. The average attendance is 254,088. The schools of the State have been in session, on an average, 148 days.

"There is, doubtless, quite a per centage of children who attend schools other than those of a public character. Yet the figures I have quoted show clearly that very many children, through the negligence or unwillingness of parents, do not attend school at all, but are in a fair way to grow up in ignorance. I, therefore, earnestly suggest that you consider the expediency of enacting a compulsory educational law, which should require attendance upon schools of some kind, either public or private. To me it does seem as if the State shall not have done her full duty by the children, until she shall have completed her educational system by some such enactment.

"The interest in the normal institutes is maintained, and, beyond doubt, they render great aid in training the teachers who attend them.

"The receipts for all school purposes throughout the State were \$5,006,023. 60, and the expenditures \$5,129,279.49; but of these receipts and expenditures about \$400,000 was of money borrowed to refund outstanding bonds at lower rates of interest.

"The amount on hand aggregated, at the end of the fiscal year, \$2,653,356.55. This sum is, in my judgment, much larger than the necessities of the schools require, and it would be well to impose some check to prevent an excessive or unnecessary levy of taxes for school purposes."

The significance of such facts as these is unmistakable. Such lavish expenditures can only be accounted for by the liberality and public spirit of the people, all of whom manifest their love of popular education and their faith in the public schools by the annual dedication to their support of more than one per cent. of their entire taxable property; this too, uninterruptedly through a

series of years, commencing in the midst of a war which taxed their energies and resources to the extreme, and continuing through years of general depression in business—years of moderate yield of produce, of discouragingly low prices, and even amid the scanty surrounding and privations of pioneer life. Few human enterprises have a grander significance or give evidence of a more noble purpose than the generous contributions from the scanty resources of the pioneer for the purpose of public education.

## POLITICAL RECORD.

### TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

*Governors*—Robert Lucas, 1838–41; John Chambers, 1841–45; James Clarke, 1845.

*Secretaries*—William B. Conway, 1838, died 1839; James Clarke, 1839; O. H. W. Stull, 1841; Samuel J. Burr, 1843; Jesse Williams, 1845.

*Auditors*—Jesse Williams, 1840; Wm. L. Gilbert, 1843; Robert M. Secrest, 1845.

*Treasurers*—Thornton Bayliss, 1839; Morgan Reno, 1840.

*Judges*—Charles Mason, Chief Justice, 1838; Joseph Williams, 1838, Thomas S. Wilson, 1838.

*Presidents of Council*—Jesse B. Browne, 1838–9; Stephen Hemstead, 1839–40; M. Bainridge, 1840–1; Jonathan W. Parker, 1841–2; John D. Elbert, 1842–3; Thomas Cox, 1843–4; S. Clinton Hastings, 1845; Stephen Hemstead, 1845–6.

*Speakers of the House*—William H. Wallace, 1838–9; Edward Johnston, 1839–40; Thomas Cox, 1840–1; Warner Lewis, 1841–2; James M. Morgan, 1842–3; James P. Carleton 1843–4; James M. Morgan, 1845; George W. McCleary, 1845–6.

*First Constitutional Convention*, 1844—Shepherd Leffler, President; George S. Hampton, Secretary.

*Second Constitutional Convention*, 1846—Enos Lowe, President; William Thompson, Secretary.

### OFFICERS OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

*Governors*—Ansel Briggs, 1846 to 1850; Stephen Hemstead, 1850 to 1854; James W. Grimes, 1854 to 1858; Ralph P. Lowe, 1858 to 1860; Samuel J. Kirkwood, 1860 to 1864; William M. Stone, 1864 to 1868; Samuel Merrill, 1868 to 1872; Cyrus C. Carpenter, 1872 to 1876; Samuel J. Kirkwood, 1876 to 1877; Joshua G. Newbold, Acting, 1877 to 1878; John H. Gear, 1878 to 1882; Buren R. Sherman, 1882 to—

*Lieutenant Governors*—Office created by the new Constitution, September 3, 1857—Oran Faville, 1858–9; Nicholas J. Rush, 1860–1; John R. Needham, 1862–3; Enoch W. Eastman, 1864–5; Benjamin F. Gue, 1866–7; John Scott, 1868–9; M. M. Walden,

1870-1; H. C. Bulis, 1872-3; Joseph Dysart, 1874-5; Joshua G. Newbold, 1876-7; Frank T. Campbell, 1878-82; O. H. Manning, 1882 to—.

*Secretaries of State*—Elisha Cutler, Jr., Dec. 5, 1846, to Dec. 4, 1848; Josiah H. Bonney, Dec. 4, 1848, to Dec. 2, 1850; George W. McCleary, Dec. 2, 1850, to Dec. 2, 1856; Elijah Sells, Dec. 1, 1856, to Jan. 5, 1863; James Wright, Jan. 5, 1863, to Jan. 7, 1867; Ed. Wright, Jan. 7, 1867, to Jan. 6, 1873; Josiah T. Young, Jan. 6, 1873, to 1879; J. A. T; Hull, 1879 to—.

*Auditors of State*—Joseph T. Fales, Dec. 5, 1846 to Dec. 2, 1850; William Pattee, Dec. 2, 1850, to Dec. 4, 1854; Andrew J. Stevens, Dec. 4, 1854, resigned in 1855; John Pattee, Sept. 22, 1855 to Jan. 3 1859; Jonathan W. Cattell, 1859, to 1865; John A. Elliot, 1865 to 1871; John Russell, 1871 to 1875; Buren R. Sherman, 1875 to 1881; W. V. Lucas, 1881 to—.

*Treasurers of State*—Morgan Reno, Dec. 18, 1846, to Dec. 2, 1850; Israel Kister, Dec. 2, 1850, to Dec. 4, 1852; Martin L. Morris, Dec. 4, 1852, to Jan. 2, 1859; John W. Jones 1859 to 1863; William H. Holmes, 1863 to 1867; Samuel E. Rankin, 1867 to 1873; William Christy, 1873 to 1877; George W. Bemis, 1877 to 1881; Edwin G. Conger, 1881 to—.

*Superintendents of Public Instruction*—Office created in 1847—James Harlan, June 5, 1845 (Supreme Court decided election void); Thomas H. Benton, Jr., May 23, 1844, to June 7, 1854; James D. Eads, 1854-7; Joseph C. Stone, March to June, 1857; Maturin L. Fisher, 1857 to Dec. 1858, when the office was abolished and the duties of the office devolved upon the Secretary of the Board of Education.

*Secretaries of the Board of Education*—Thomas H. Benton, Jr., 1859-1863; Oran Faville, Jan. 1, 1864. Board abolished March 23, 1864.

*Superintendents of Public Instruction*—Office re-created March 23, 1864—Oran Faville, March 28, 1864, resigned March 1, 1867; D. Franklin Wells, March 4, 1879, to Jan., 1870; A. S. Kissell, 1870 to 1872; Alonzo Abernethy, 1872 to 1877; Carl W. von Coelln, 1877 to 1882; J. W. Akers, 1882 to —.

*State Binders*—Office created February 21, 1845—William M. Coles, May 1, 1855, to May 1, 1859; Frank M. Mills, 1859 to 1867; James S. Carter, 1867 to 1870; J. J. Smart, 1870 to 1874; H. A. Perkins, 1874 to 1878; Matt Parrott, 1878 to —.

*Registers of the State Land Office*—Anson Hart, May 5, 1855, to May 13, 1857; Theodore S. Parvin, May 13, 1857, to Jan. 3, 1859; Amos B. Miller, Jan. 3, 1859, to October, 1862; Edwin Mitchell, Oct. 31, 1862, to Jan. 5, 1863; Josiah A. Harvey, Jan. 5, 1863, to Jan. 7, 1867; Cyrus C. Carpenter, Jan. 7, 1867, to Jan. 1871; Aaron Brown, January, 1871, to January, 1875; David Seccor, January, 1875, to 1879; J. K. Powers, 1879 to —.

*State Printers*—Office created Jan. 3, 1840—Garrett D. Palmer and George Paul, 1849; William H. Merritt, 1851 to 1853; William A. Hornish, 1853 (resigned May 16, 1853); Mahoney & Dorr, 1853 to 1855; Peter Moriarty, 1855 to 1857; John Teesdale, 1857 to 1861; Francis W. Palmer, 1861 to 1869; Frank M. Mills, 1869 to 1870; G. W. Edwards, 1870 to 1872; R. P. Clarkson, 1872 to 1878; Frank M. Mills, 1878 to —.

*Adjutants General*—Daniel S. Lee, 1851-5; Geo. W. McCleary, 1855-7; Elijah Sells, 1857; Jesse Bowen, 1857-61; Nathaniel Baker, 1861 to 1877; John H. Looby, 1877 to 1879; W. L. Alexander, 1879 to —.

*Attorneys General*—David C. Cloud, 1843-56; Samuel A. Rice, 1856-60; Charles C. Nourse, 1861-4; Isaac L. Allen, 1865 (resigned January, 1866); Frederick E. Bissell, 1866 (died June 12, 1867); Henry O'Connor, 1867-72; Marsena E. Cutts, 1872-6; John F. McJunkin, 1877 to 1881; Smith McPherson, 1881 to —.

*Presidents of the Senate*—Thomas Baker, 1846-7; Thomas Hughes, 1848; John J. Selman, 1848-9; Enos Lowe, 1850-1; William E. Leffingwell, 1852-3; Maturin L. Fisher, 1854-5; William W. Hamilton, 1856-7. Under the new Constitution, the Lieutenant Governor is President of the Senate.

*Speakers of the House*—Jesse B. Brown, 1847-8; Smiley H. Bonhan, 1849-50; George Temple, 1851-2; James Grant, 1853-4; Reuben Noble, 1855-6; Samuel McFarland, 1856-7; Stephen B. Sheledy, 1858-9; John Edwards, 1860-1; Rush Clark, 1862-3; Jacob Butler, 1864-5; Ed. Wright, 1866-7; John Russell, 1868-9; Aylett R. Cotton, 1870-71; James Wilson, 1872-3; John H. Gear, 1874-7; John Y. Stone, 1878-9; Lore Alford, 1880-1; G. R. Struble, 1882 to —.

*New Constitutional Convention*, 1859—Francis Springer, President; Thos. J. Saunders, Secretary.

#### STATE OFFICERS, 1882.

Buren R. Sherman, Governor; O. H. Manning, Lieutenant Governor; John A. T. Hull, Secretary of State; William V. Lucas, Auditor of State; Edward H. Conger, Treasurer of State; James K. Powers, Register of State Land Office; W. L. Alexander, Adjutant General; Smith McPherson, Attorney General; Edward J. Holmes, Clerk of the Supreme Court; Jno. S. Runnells, Reporter Supreme Court; J. W. Akers, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Frank M. Mills, State Printer; Matt. Parrott, State Binder; Prof. Nathan R. Leonard, Superintendent of Weights and Measures; Mrs. S. B. Maxwell, State Librarian.

#### THE JUDICIARY.

##### SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1882.

Chief Justice, Austin Adams, Dubuque; Associate Judges, William H. Seevers, Oskaloosa; James D. Day, Sidney; James H. Rothrock, Tipton; Joseph M. Beck, Fort Madison.

## DISTRICTS COURTS, 1882.

First Judicial District, Abraham H. Stutsman, Burlington; Second Judicial District, Edward L. Burton, Ottumwa; Third Judicial District, R. C. Henry, Mount Ayr; Fourth Judicial District, Charles H. Lewis, Cherokee; Fifth Judicial District, William H. McHenry, Des Moines; Sixth Judicial District, John C. Cook, Newton; Seventh Judicial District, Walter I. Hayes, Clinton; Eighth Judicial District, John Shane, Vinton; Ninth Judicial District, Sylvester Bagg, Waterloo; Tenth Judicial District, Ezekial E. Cooley, Decorah; Eleventh Judicial District, James W. McKenzie, Hampton; Twelfth Judicial District, Geo. W. Ruddick, Waverly; Thirteenth Judicial District, Joseph R. Reed, Council Bluffs; Fourteenth Judicial District, Ed. R. Duffie, Sac City.

## CIRCUIT COURTS, 1882.

First Judicial Circuit, First District, William J. Jeffries, Mt. Pleasant; Second Judicial Circuit, First District, Charles Phelps, Burlington; Second Judicial Circuit, H. C. Traverse, Bloomfield; Third Judicial Circuit, D. D. Gregory, Afton; Fourth Judicial Circuit, J. R. Zuver, Sioux City; First Judicial Circuit, Fifth District, Josiah Given, Des Moines; Second Judicial Circuit, Fifth District, Stephen A. Callvert, Adel; Sixth Judicial Circuit, W. R. Lewis, Montezuma; First Judicial Circuit, Seventh District, Charles W. Chase, Clinton; Second Judicial Circuit, Seventh District, DeWitt C. Richman, Muscatine, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Christian Hedges, Marengo; Ninth Judicial Circuit, Benjamin W. Lacy, Dubuque; Tenth Judicial Circuit, Charles T. Granger, Waukon; Eleventh Judicial Circuit, D. D. Miracle, Webster City; Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Robert G. Reiniger, Charles City; Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, C. F. Loofbourrow, Atlantic; Fourteenth Judicial Circuit, John N. Weaver, Algona.

## CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION.

## UNITED STATES SENATORS.

(The first General Assembly failed to elect Senators.)

George W. Jones, Dubuque, Dec. 7, 1848-1858; Augustus C. Dodge, Burlington, Dec. 7, 1848-1855; James Harlan, Mt. Pleasant, Jan. 6, 1855-1865; James W. Grimes, Burlington, Jan. 26, 1858-died 1870; Samuel J. Kirkwood, Iowa City, elected Jan. 13, 1866, to fill vacancy caused by resignation of James Harlan; James Harlan, Mt. Pleasant, March 4, 1866-1872; James B. Howell, Keokuk, elected Jan. 20, 1870, to fill vacancy caused by the death of J. W. Grimes—term expired March 3d; Geo. G. Wright, Des Moines, March 4, 1871-1877; William B. Allison, Dubuque, March 4, 1872; Samuel J. Kirkwood, March 4, 1877; James W. McDill, appointed to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of S.

J. Kirkwood, in 1881, and elected Jan. 1882, to fill the unexpired term; James F. Wilson, elected Jan. 1882, for the full term, beginning March 4, 1883.

#### MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Twenty-ninth Congress*—1846 to 1847.—S. Clinton Hastings; Shepherd Leffler.

*Thirtieth Congress*—1847 to 1849.—First District, William Thompson; Second District, Shepherd Leffler.

*Thirty-first Congress*—1849 to 1851.—First District, First Session, Wm. Thompson; unseated by the House of Representatives on a contest, and election remanded to the people. First District, Second Session, Daniel F. Miller. Second District, Shepherd Leffler.

*Thirty-second Congress*—1851 to 1853.—First District, Bernhart Henn. Second District, Lincoln Clark.

*Thirty-third Congress*—1853 to 1855.—First District, Bernhart Henn. Second District, John P. Cook.

*Thirty-fourth Congress*—1855 to 1857.—First District, Augustus Hall. Second District, James Thorington.

*Thirty-fifth Congress*—1857 to 1859.—First District, Samuel R. Curtis. Second District, Timothy Davis.

*Thirty-sixth Congress*—1859 to 1861.—First District, Samuel R. Curtis. Second District, William Vandever.

*Thirty-seventh Congress*—1861 to 1863.—First District, First Session, Samuel R. Curtis.\* First District, Second and Third Sessions, James F. Wilson. Second District, William Vandever.

*Thirty-eighth Congress*—1863 to 1865.—First District, James F. Wilson; Second District, Hiram Price; Third District, William B. Allison; Fourth District, Josiah B. Grinnell; Fifth District, John A. Kasson; Sixth District, Asahel W. Hubbard.

*Thirty-ninth Congress*—1865 to 1867.—First District, James F. Wilson; Second District, Hiram Price; Third District, William B. Allison; Fourth District, Josiah B. Grinnell; Fifth District, John A. Kasson; Sixth District, Asahel W. Hubbard.

*Fortieth Congress*—1867 to 1869.—First District, James F. Wilson; Second District, Hiram Price; Third District, William B. Allison; Fourth District, William Loughridge; Fifth District, Grenville M. Dodge; Sixth District, Asahel W. Hubbard.

*Forty-first Congress*—1869 to 1871.—First District, George W. McCrary; Second District, William Smyth; Third District, William B. Allison; Fourth District, William Loughridge; Fifth District, Frank W. Palmer; Sixth District, Charles Pomeroy.

---

\*Vacated seat by acceptance of commission as Brigadier General, and J. F. Wilson chosen his successor.



*Forty-second Congress*—1871 to 1873—First District, George W. McCrary; Second District, Aylett R. Cotton; Third District, W. G. Donnan; Fourth District, Madison M. Waldon; Fifth District, Frank W. Palmer; Sixth District, Jackson Orr.

*Forty-third Congress*—1873 to 1875—First District, George W. McCrary; Second District, Aylett R. Cotton; Third District, William G. Donnan; Fourth District, Henry O. Pratt; Fifth District, James Wilson; Sixth District, William Loughridge; Seventh District, John A. Kasson; Eighth District, James W. McDill; Ninth District, Jackson Orr.

*Forty-fourth Congress*—1875 to 1877.—First District, George W. McCrary, Second District, John Q. Tufts; Third District, L. L. Ainsworth; Fourth District, Henry O. Pratt; Fifth District, James Wilson; Sixth District, Ezekiel S. Sampson; Seventh District, John A. Kasson; Eighth District, James W. McDill; Ninth District, Addison Oliver.

*Forty-fifth Congress*—1877 to 1879.—First District, J. C. Stone; Second District, Hiram Price; Third District, T. W. Burdick; Fourth District, H. C. Deering; Fifth District, Rush Clark; Sixth District, E. S. Sampson; Seventh District, H. J. B. Cummings; Eighth District, W. F. Sapp; Ninth District, A. Oliver.

*Forty-sixth Congress*—1879 to 1881.—First District, Moses A. McCoid; Second District, Hiram Price; Third District, Thomas Updegraff; Fourth District, Nathaniel C. Deering; Fifth District, W. G. Thompson; Sixth District, James B. Weaver; Seventh District, Edward H. Gillette; Eighth District, William F. Sapp; Ninth District, Cyrus C. Carpenter.

*Forty-seventh Congress*—1881 to 1883.—First District, Moses A. McCoid; Second District, Sewall S. Farwell; Third District, Thomas Updegraff; Fourth District, Nathaniel C. Deering; Fifth District, W. G. Thompson; Sixth District, Madison E. Cutts; Seventh District, John A. Kasson; Eighth District, William P. Hepburn; Ninth District, Cyrus C. Carpenter.

## WAR RECORD.

The State of Iowa may well be proud of her record during the War of the Rebellion, from 1861 to 1865. The following brief but comprehensive sketch of the history she made during that trying period, is largely from the pen of Col. A. P. Wood, of Dubuque, the author of "The History of Iowa and the War," one of the best works of the kind yet written.

"Whether in the promptitude of her responses to the calls made on her by the General Government, in the courage and constancy of her soldiery in the field, or in the wisdom and efficiency with which her civil administration was conducted during the trying period covered by the War of the Rebellion, Iowa proved herself the peer of any loyal State. The proclamation of her Governor, responsive to that of the President, calling for volunteers to com-

pose her First Regiment, was issued on the fourth day after the fall of Sumter. At the end of only a single week, men enough were reported to be in quarters (mostly in the vicinity of their own homes) to fill the regiment. These, however, were hardly more than a tithe of the number who had been offered by company commanders for acceptance under the President's call. So urgent were these offers that the Governor requested (on the 24th of April) permission to organize an additional regiment. While awaiting an answer to this request, he conditionally accepted a sufficient number of companies to compose two additional regiments. In a short time, he was notified that both of these would be accepted. Soon after the completion of the Second and Third Regiments (which was near the close of May), the Adjutant General of the State reported that upwards of one hundred and seventy companies had been tendered to the Governor to serve against the enemies of the Union.

"Much difficulty and considerable delay occurred in fitting these regiments for the field. For the First Infantry a complete outfit (not uniform) of clothing was extemporized—principally by the volunteered labor of loyal women in the different towns—from material of various colors and qualities, obtained within the limits of the State. The same was done in part for the Second Infantry. Meantime, an extra session of the General Assembly had been called by the Governor, to convene on the 15th of May. With but little delay, that body authorized a loan of \$800,000 to meet the extraordinary expenses incurred, and to be incurred, by the Executive Department, in consequence of the new emergency. A wealthy merchant of the State (ex-Governor Merrill, then a resident of McGregor) immediately took from the Governor a contract to supply a complete outfit of clothing for the three regiments organized, agreeing to receive, should the Governor so elect, his pay therefor in State bonds at par. This contract he executed to the letter, and a portion of the clothing (which was manufactured in Boston to his order) was delivered at Keokuk, the place at which the troops had rendezvoused, in exactly one month from the day on which the contract had been entered into. The remainder arrived only a few days later. This clothing was delivered to the regiment, but was subsequently condemned by the Government, for the reason that its color was gray, and blue had been adopted as the color to be worn by the national troops."

Other States also clothed their troops, sent forward under the first call of President Lincoln, with gray uniforms, but it was soon found that the Confederate forces were also clothed in gray, and that color was once abandoned by the Union troops. If both armies were clothed alike, annoying if not fatal mistakes were liable to be made.

But while engaged in these efforts to discharge her whole duty, in common with all the other Union-loving States in the great

emergency, Iowa was compelled to make immediate and ample provision for the protection of her own borders, from threatened invasion on the south by the Secessionists of Missouri, and from incursions from the west and northwest by bands of hostile Indians, who were freed from the usual restraint imposed upon them by the presence of regular troops stationed at the frontier posts. These troops are withdrawn to meet the greater and more pressing danger threatening the life of the nation at its very heart.

To provide for the adequate defense of her borders from the ravages of both rebels in arms against the Government, and of the more irresistible foes from the Western plains, the Governor of the State was authorized to raise and equip two regiments of infantry, a squadron of cavalry (not less than five companies) and a battalion of artillery (not less than three companies). Only cavalry were enlisted for home defense, however, "but," says Col. Wood, "in times of special danger, or when calls were made by the Unionists of Northern Missouri for assistance against their disloyal enemies, large numbers of militia on foot often turned out, and remained in the field until the necessity for their services had passed.

"The first order for the Iowa volunteers to move to the field was received on the 13th of June. It was issued by Gen. Lyon, then commanding the United States forces in Missouri. The First and Second Infantry immediately embarked in steamboats, and moved to Hannibal. Some two weeks later, the Third Infantry was ordered to the same point. These three, together with many other of the earlier organized Iowa regiments, rendered their first field service in Missouri. The First Infantry formed a part of the little army with which Gen. Lyon moved on Springfield, and fought the bloody battle of Wilson's Creek. It received unqualified praise for its gallant bearing on the field. In the following month (September), the Third Iowa, with but very slight support, fought with honor the sanguinary engagement of Blue Mills Landing; and in November, the Seventh Iowa, as a part of a force commanded by Gen. Grant, greatly distinguished itself in the battle of Belmont, where it poured out its blood like water—losing more than half the men it took into action.

"The initial operations in which the battles referred to took place, were followed by the more important movements led by Gen. Grant, Gen. Curtis, of this state, and other commanders, which resulted in defeating the armies defending the chief strategic lines held by the Confederates in Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri and Arkansas, and compelling their withdrawal from much of the territory previously controlled by them in those States. In these and other movements, down to the grand culminating campaign by which Vicksburg was captured and the Confederacy permanently severed on the line of the Mississippi

River, Iowa troops took part in steadily increasing numbers. In the investment and siege of Vicksburg, the State was represented by thirty regiments and two batteries, in addition to which, eight regiments and one battery were employed on the outposts of the besieging army. The brilliancy of their exploits on the many fields where they served, won for them the highest meed of praise, both in military and civil circles. Multiplied were the terms in which expression was given to this sentiment, but these words of one of the journals of a neighboring State, 'The Iowa troops have been heroes among heroes,' embody the spirit of all.

"In the veteran re-enlistments that distinguished the closing months of 1863, above all other periods in the history of re-enlistments for the national armies, the Iowa three years' men (who were relatively more numerous than those of any other State) were prompt to set the example of volunteering for another term of equal length, thereby adding many thousands to the great army of those who gave this renewed and practical assurance that the cause of the Union should not be left without defenders.

"In all the important movements of 1864-65, by which the Confederacy was penetrated in every quarter, and its military power finally overthrown, the Iowa troops took part. Their drum-beat was heard on the banks of every great river of the South, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, and everywhere they rendered the same faithful and devoted service, maintaining on all occasions their wonted reputation for valor in the field and endurance on the march.

"Two Iowa three-year cavalry regiments were employed during the whole term of service in the operations that were in progress from 1863 to 1866 against the hostile Indians of the western plains. A portion of these men were among the last of the volunteer troops to be mustered out of service. The State also supplied a considerable number of men to the navy, who took part in most of the naval operations prosecuted against the Confederate power on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and the rivers of the West.

"The people of Iowa were early and constant workers in the sanitary field, and by their liberal gifts and personal efforts for the benefit of the soldiery, placed their State in front rank of those who became distinguished for their exhibition of patriotic benevolence during the period covered by the war. Agents appointed by the Governor were stationed at points convenient for rendering assistance to the sick and needy soldiers of the State, while others were employed in visiting from time to time, hospitals, camps and armies in the field, and doing whatever the circumstances rendered possible for the health and comfort of such of the Iowa soldiers as might be found there.

"Some of the benevolent people of the State early conceived the idea of establishing a Home for such of the children of de-

ceased soldiers as might be left in destitute circumstances. This idea first took form in 1863, and in the following year a Home was opened at Farmington, Van Buren County, in a building leased for that purpose, and which soon became filled to its utmost capacity. The institution received liberal donations from the general public, and also from the soldiers in the field. In 1865 it became necessary to provide increased accommodations for the large number of children who were seeking the benefits of its care. This was done by establishing a branch at Cedar Falls, in Black Hawk County, and by securing, during the same year, for the use of the parent Home, Camp Kinsman, near the city of Davenport. This property was soon afterward donated to the institution by act of Congress.

"In 1866, in pursuance of a law enacted for that purpose, the Soldiers' Orphans' Home (which then contained about four hundred and fifty inmates) became a State institution, and thereafter the sums necessary for its support were appropriated from the State Treasury. A second branch was established at Glenwood, Mills county. Convenient tracts were secured and valuable improvements made at the different points. Schools were also established and employments provided for such of the children as were of suitable age. In all ways the provision made for these wards of the State has been such as to challenge the approval of every benevolent mind. The number of children who have been inmates of the Home from its foundation to the present time is considerably more than two thousand.

"At the beginning of the war, the population of Iowa included about one hundred and fifty thousand men, presumably liable to render military service. The State raised, for general service, thirty-nine regiments of infantry, nine regiments of cavalry, and four companies of artillery, composed of three years' men; one regiment of infantry, composed of three months' men; and four regiments and one battallion of infantry composed of one hundred days' men. The original enlistments in these various organizations, including seventeen hundred and twenty-seven men raised by draft, numbered a little more than sixty-nine thousand. The re-enlistments, including upward of seven thousand veterans, numbered very nearly eight thousand. The enlistments in the regular army and navy, and organizations of other States, will, if added, raise the total to upward of eighty thousand. The number of men who, under special enlistments, and as militia, took part at different times in the operations on the exposed borders of the State, was probably as many as five thousand.

"Iowa paid no bounty on account of the men she placed in the field. In some instances, toward the close of the war, bounty to a comparatively small amount was paid by cities and towns. On only one occasion—that of the call of July 18, 1864—was a draft made in Iowa. This did not occur on account of her proper liabil-

ty, as established by previous rulings of the War Department, to supply men under that call, but grew out of the great necessity that there existed for raising men. The Government insisted on temporarily setting aside, in part, the former rule of settlements, and enforcing a draft in all cases where sub-districts in any of the States should be found deficient in their supply of men. In no instance was Iowa, as a whole, found to be indebted to the General Government for men, on a settlement of her quota accounts."

It is to be said to the honor and credit of Iowa, that while many of the loyal States, older and larger in population and wealth, incurred heavy State debts for the purpose of fulfilling their obligations to the General Government, Iowa, while she was foremost in duty, while she promptly discharged all her obligations to her sister States and the Union, found herself at the close of the war without any material addition to her pecuniary liabilities incurred before the war commenced. Upon final settlement, after the restoration of peace, her claims upon the Federal Government were found to be fully equal to the amount of her bonds issued and sold during the war to provide the means for raising and equipping troops sent into the field, and to meet the inevitable demands upon her treasury in consequence of the war.

*STATEMENT showing the number of men furnished and casualties in Iowa regiments during the War of the Rebellion.*

REGIMENTS.	Number of Men	Total Casualties.	Killed or died of Wounds.	Died of Disease.
1st Battery.....	149	124	10	51
2d Battery.....	123	62	2	29
3d Battery.....	142	79	4	33
4th Battery.....	152	17	..	5
1st Cavalry.....	1478	543	54	187
2d Cavalry.....	1394	602	65	191
3d Cavalry.....	1360	770	77	224
4th Cavalry.....	1227	590	48	186
5th Cavalry.....	1245	452	43	127
6th Cavalry.....	1125	193	21	59
7th Cavalry.....	562	402	40	92
8th Cavalry.....	1234	274	33	91
9th Cavalry.....	1178	258	15	162
Sioux City Cavalry.....	93	7	..	..
Co. A, 11th Penn. Cavalry.....	87	5	1	4
1st Infantry.....	959	165	17	7
2d Infantry.....	1247	758	72	107
3d Infantry.....	1074	749	80	99
2d and 3d Inf. Consolidated.....	....	28	18	9
4th Infantry.....	1184	973	108	237
5th Infantry.....	1037	699	88	90
6th Infantry.....	1013	855	132	124
7th Infantry.....	1138	885	129	135

REGIMENTS.	Number of Men	Total Cas- ualties	Killed or died of Wounds.	Died of Disease.
8th Infantry.....	1027	761	93	137
9th Infantry.....	1090	973	133	208
10th Infantry.....	1027	739	91	134
11th Infantry.....	1022	610	79	148
12th Infantry.....	981	768	62	243
13th Infantry.....	989	852	99	182
14th Infantry.....	840	526	50	122
14th Inf. Res. Batt.....	....	11	..	..
15th Infantry.....	1196	1029	130	194
16th Infantry.....	918	819	89	217
17th Infantry.....	950	614	61	97
18th Infantry.....	875	449	33	109
19th Infantry.....	985	562	86	91
20th Infantry.....	925	359	13	130
21st Infantry.....	980	531	66	157
22d Infantry.....	1108	634	105	126
23d Infantry.....	961	570	69	196
24th Infantry.....	959	761	111	197
25th Infantry.....	995	564	61	199
26th Infantry.....	919	562	69	204
27th Infantry.....	940	530	21	162
28th Infantry.....	956	696	76	180
29th Infantry.....	1005	511	36	248
30th Infantry.....	978	646	63	233
31st Infantry.....	977	540	27	261
32d Infantry.....	925	589	89	203
33d Infantry.....	985	580	62	196
34th Infantry.....	953	561	6	228
34th Consolidated.....	....	72	5	13
35th Infantry.....	984	510	42	182
36th Infantry.....	986	619	59	226
37th Infantry.....	914	503	3	141
38th Infantry.....	910	431	1	310
39th Infantry.....	933	406	54	119
40th Infantry.....	900	361	15	179
41st Infantry.....	294	17	..	2
44th Infantry.....	867	15	..	14
45th Infantry.....	912	22	1	17
46th Infantry.....	892	28	1	23
47th Infantry.....	884	47	..	45
48th Infantry.....	346	4	..	4
1st African Infantry.....	903	383	5	331
Totals.....	56,364	30,394	3,139	8,695

# History of Chickasaw County.

---

## CHAPTER I.

---

INTRODUCTION ; CONTRASTS OF THEN AND NOW ; GEOGRAPHY ;  
TOPOGRAPHY ; GEOLOGY ; PRINCIPAL PRODUCTIONS, AND RE-  
SOURCES ; RAILROAD FACILITIES.

---

### INTRODUCTORY.

Lessening each year, under the relentless hand of death, the little band of hardy pioneers, who first broke the way for civilization and planted the broad marks of progress on the virgin prairie of Chickasaw County, are fast passing away, and before they have all been gathered to their rest let us hasten and gather from their lips the tales of bygone days, when hardy pioneers, both men and women, leaving the friendly shelter of the old home, pushed out into the domain of the wild beast and his scarce less wild brother the savage, and there essayed to carve them out a new home.

Their bent forms, their furrowed brows and hoary hair, tell of the fierce battle with trial and hardship—the fight for life with penury and want, but the bright eye, the firm glance, tell that they conquered, as only a noble band of heroes could conquer, and they seem spared to sanctify the homes that they have founded in this domain of nature. Their deeds deserve a place in history, that will long survive the monuments of marble that must soon mark the place where they will be at rest. Let us then gather the details from them before they go, that we may honor them as we should. And here let us draw

### THE CONTRAST

between the then and now. Although settled at a comparatively



late date this parallel seems startling, those who have lived quietly upon their farms, which they settled when they first came, can hardly realize the change, having seen it grow up so gradually. But like the years of man the country has been growing steadily on. Thirty-five years ago these now productive acres, these rich grazing lands and fertile farms, were lying an almost unbroken wilderness, the hunting ground and often the battle ground of the red Indian.

The soil was rich and productive, but what sterling nerve and determination was required to make it a suitable habitation for man, and to reclaim to the uses of civilization its virgin soil, verily, to turn the back on the older homes of our race and carve out a new one on the bosom of the prairies was no light task. No roads laid out or opened, and the settler was often compelled to go thirty or forty miles to mill, and happy was he if he had grist to grind at that.

Agricultural and domestic implements were scarce and crude, and hard manual labor replaced them to a great extent. Contrast the difference between the rude appliances of those early days, O, ye pioneers! with the manifold labor-saving implements of to-day, both in housekeeping and husbandry. The harvester with the scythe—the threshing machine with the flail—the sewing machine with its more humble sister the sewing needle, and so on, through all the long list, and then you can mark the change.

Contrast the rude log school house, which served its multiform purpose of school, church, court-house and often the only public building within the radius of a day's journey, with the more pretentious churches, school-houses and county buildings of the present day.

In those early days, "that tried men's souls," or at least their nerve and back bone, no handy market was there, for the farm produce, nor convenient store where he could purchase all his needs called for, but a long journey over a dreary road, often extending to 75 or 100 miles before he could reach a place advanced enough to boast of a buyer and seller of produce and merchandise, and his only conveyance the slow plodding oxen, or scarce more expeditious farm horse. Now the iron horse snorts almost at the very door, and towns and villages dot these boundless prairies, bringing in their train all conveniences of civilized life, and even

all the luxuries of the olden home he left in the bye gone days. But let us to the facts.

The following facts as to the location, physical features, soil and drainage, and resources of Chickasaw County, are mainly taken from Andreas' State Atlas of Iowa, and are believed to be as accurate as are obtainable. They are supplemented with additional facts, wherever it is possible to procure reliable data and information :

Chickasaw is the third county west of the Mississippi River in the second tier from the north line of the State. It contains an area of 504 square miles, or 322,560 acres

The surface of the country is generally gently undulating, and in some places very nearly level. Very little rolling land is found within its limits, and this is confined principally to a narrow strip of the southwestern township, in the vicinity of Cedar River. The natural drainage of this surface is remarkably good, as the county is traversed by no less than seven streams of considerable size, all flowing in a southeasterly direction, and almost parallel to each other, which, with their numerous small affluents, drain nearly every section in the county. The current in these streams is uniformly quite rapid, but the nature of the rock underlying the entire county has prevented them from eroding deep channels.

The numerous streams supply the county with numerous water powers, which are being improved as the agricultural resources of the county are developed and require their use. It has so far been chiefly employed for milling purposes, as other manufacturing enterprises have not been inaugurated to any great extent.

The streams are also generally skirted with timber, of which, however, the county has not an abundant supply. There is enough to supply the ordinary needs of the county since the railroads have brought pine lumber within reach, as it is more economical both for building and fencing than native lumber. The timber is tolerably well distributed, and since the settlement of the county has diminished the ravages of fire it is growing rapidly in groves upon the prairies. The largest body of timber lies along the Cedar River in the southwest part of the county.

The county is almost entirely underlaid with strata of rock which geologists ascribe to the Hamilton group of the Devonian Age. It is an argillaceous limestone or highly calcareous shales alternating with bands of limestone. The following measurements

of the different strata at a quarry near Bradford, on Cedar River, will indicate the general character of the rock formation :

Light-gray, fine grained limestone.....	9 inches.
Dark-gray, thick shaly limestone.....	7 feet.
Buff-gray crystalline limestone.....	5 inches.
Hard, dark-gray shaly limestone.....	8 inches.
Hard dark-gray limestone.....	7 inches.
Unexposed.....	2 feet.
Light, buff-gray limestone .....	1 ft. 8 in.

The limestone exposed at this quarry is of medium purity, and quite hard. So far as observed, it is almost destitute of fossil. It is well exposed only along the banks of Cedar River. Elsewhere over the county the comparatively level surface of deep drift, and the shallow channels of the streams are causes which prevent its frequent exposure.

Materials suitable for the manufacture of brick may be found in nearly every township.

In an early day a large portion of the land in this county was considered rather too wet to be of the highest value for cultivation. The wet land was not found in the form of low marshes, difficult of drainage, for there were none of these, but was as frequent upon the highest prairies as elsewhere. This peculiarity has very rapidly disappeared within the last few years, as indeed it could scarcely fail to do with the excellent natural drainage already described. It was doubtless caused in part by the comparatively slight depressions made by the water course, but the principal cause is probably to be found in the nature of the soil and subsoil. The soil is a deep, rich black loam, abundantly supplied with vegetable mold from the decay of the wild grasses which grew profusely upon its surface. The subsoil is a deep bed of the drift deposit consisting of earth near the surface, and beneath this mingled clay, sand and gravel. Its texture was not so suitable for admitting the percolation of water through it from the surface as the light porous subsoil of other sections, and the limestone rock does not come near enough the surface to supply the under drainage afforded to still other sections. The luxuriant growth of grass and tough sward which it formed tended to retard the drying of the soil by evaporation. An undue proportion of water was retained

near the surface by these causes. Cultivation in places and the pasturage of the intervening prairies, have tended to equalize the conditions and the wet character of the soil began to disappear without artificial drainage. Indeed, it is now satisfactorily demonstrated that cultivation alone is capable of effecting a complete cure; that the soil, although in an early day appearing to be of rather a sluggish quality, not so easily or readily subdued as that of some other sections, becomes in the course of a few years, as lively and as well adapted to the plow as any other, and that it is rich and productive, possessing qualities of strength and durability found wanting in soils that were more easily subdued from a state of nature, and which also wear out more easily. The statistics published in another part of this work, show that in relative productiveness for the amount of land in cultivation, Chickasaw county takes rank among the foremost counties of the State of Iowa.

The principal grain products of the county are wheat, corn, oats, and barley. Wheat takes the lead slightly, followed very closely by corn, and to a somewhat less degree by oats. The soil seems to be nearly equally well adapted to all these grains, the relative profit to be derived from them, chiefly govern the extent of cultivation. Stock raising is an important branch of its industries, as both native and tame grasses thrive luxuriantly, and, indeed, cattle raising is by many deemed more remunerative than extensive grain growing. The county is therefore admirably suited for mixed or diversified farming, and is not devoted to one class of crops, or to grain growing or stock raising to the exclusion or detriment of the other branch, but most of its farmers cultivate the several kinds of grain and grass and raise small herds of cattle, thereby securing the rotation in crops and other conditions most highly advantageous and favorable a reliable productiveness, and have every year some surplus that will bring a good price in the market, whether any particular product be up or down.

The mineral resources of the county are comparatively slight, being limited to a few quarries, of building stone. Her agricultural resources are remarkably good, as we have already described, and must constitute the foundation of her future prosperity. There are excellent resources for manufacturing purposes, in her abundant water powers. These have been already improved to

considerable extent for flouring mills, but with her rich agricultural resources and demand for machinery, ought to be made to propel a large amount of machinery employed in the manufacture of agricultural implements and woolen goods, which will doubtless be done in time.

The railroad facilities of the county are good. It is traveled from east to west by the Iowa and Dakota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway, with stations at New Hampton, Lawler and Chickasaw, affording ready access to the best wheat market of the northwest—Milwaukee. The Cedar Falls and Minnesota branch of the Illinois Central railroad traverses the southwest corner, with an important station at Nashua. Both of these roads furnish ready communication with the principal pine lumber districts.

We would add, however, that the capability of the county for grazing purposes, is largely turning the attention of the farming community in that direction, with marked success, as is instanced by an improved financial condition of all classes.

Already a large number of creameries dot these fertile prairies, and foreshadow a new era in the prosperity of the county. The population is largely made up of the emigrants from the overcrowded European countries, principally from Ireland, Germany and Scandinavia, with many from the older states of our own country, but all blend harmoniously in working for the present and future good of this their adopted home.



## CHAPTER II.

---

ORGANIZATION; ORIGINAL ORDER FOR THE SAME; FIRST OFFICERS;  
EARLY RECORDS; DIVISION INTO TOWNSHIPS; COUNTY ELECTIONS;  
COUNTY OFFICIALS; VOTES ON FEDERAL STATE, AND COUNTY  
OFFICERS, ETC.

---

The first attempt at organizing the county of Chickasaw was made in 1853, the following, which relates thereto, being the first entry in the records of the county judge:

"The county of Chickasaw embraces towns 94, 95, 96 and 97, ranges 11, 12, 13 and 14, west of the fifth principal meridian; and by order of the county judge of Fayette county, state of Iowa, the same was on the 30th day of June, A. D. 1853, ordered organized. John Bird, organizing sheriff in the election held on the 13th day of August, 1853"

The following is a copy of the original notice to the organizing sheriff, marked, filed December 31st, 1854, in the office of the county judge of Chickasaw county, by J. Lyon county judge:

"STATE OF IOWA, }  
FAYETTE COUNTY. }

John Bird—Sir: By virtue of power vested in me by the col. of Iowa, I have this day appointed you organizing sheriff for the organization of Chickasaw county. You are hereby required to post up at least five written notices in said county, that on the first Monday in August there will be an election held at the house of A. E. Haskel in the town of Bradford, for the purpose of organizing said county and electing county officers as follows. to-wit:

"County judge, district clerk, recorder, and treasurer, school fund commissioner, prosecuting attorney, sheriff, coroner, and county surveyor.

"And also one justice of the peace, one constable, three township trustees and town clerk. And make due returns to me of the same at my office in West Union.

"The above mentioned notices to be posted up at least ten days prior to the election.

"THOMAS WOODLE,  
"County Judge."

"June 30th, 1853.

The election was held as so ordered, and so far as can be definitely ascertained, G. R. Rowley was elected county judge; William Tucker, school fund commissioner; but for reasons satisfactory, no doubt, to himself, this result was not in accordance with the wishes of the organizing sheriff, Bird, who it would seem, consequently withheld all returns on his warrant, and ordered a new election, which took place April 3d, 1854, at which the organization of the county was duly effected.

The only record showing this election is the bond of John Campbell as treasurer and recorder signed by G. R. Rowley and James S. Frazee as bondsmen, and filed in the office of James Lyon, county judge, April 12th, 1854. The bond was in the sum of five thousand dollars. Tradition has it that S. C. Goddard resigned as clerk of the districts court, and his place was filled by J. A. J. Bird. To the filing of the finding of the commissioners, locating the county seat at Bradford, under date of August 14th. 1854, we find Bird's signature attached. An entry bearing date September 5th, 1853, records a session of county court held that day, Judge James Lyon presiding, at which no business was transacted, and the court adjourned. This is signed by S. C. Goddard as clerk.

The county of Chickasaw, as appears from the above, was organized April 3d, 1854, when the following officers were elected: James Lyon, county judge; John Campbell, recorder and treasurer; S. C. Goddard, district clerk; D. A. Babcock, prosecuting attorney; Andrew Sample, sheriff; Oscar Cooley, surveyor; Dr. S. C. Haynes, coroner.

At this election the whole county was treated as one precinct, under the name of Bradford. The following is a concise account of the subsequent township organization:

At the March term of the county court, 1855, it was ordered that the county of Chickasaw constitute five election districts, viz: 1. That town 94-14 and 13 be called Bradford district. 2. That town 95-14 and 13 be called Chickasaw district. 3. That town 96-14 and 13 be called Brink district. 4. That town 96 and one-half of 97-11 and 12, be called Obispo district. 5. That towns 94 and 95-11 and 12 be called Yankee district.

At the March term of the county court, 1856, township 96, range 14, and the south half of 97-14, were set off as a new township under the name of Deerfield, and organized at the ensuing election.

At the same term, township 94, range 13, was set off, and at the ensuing election organized under the name of Richland.

At the same term an order was made to organize township 96-13 and the south half of 97-13, under name of Washington, and the township proceeded to organize; but the organization was pronounced irregular, and it was attached to Deerfield.

At the April term, 1857, township 95-12 was ordered organized under the name of New Hampton; also 96-13 and the south half of 97-13, under the name of Washington; also 94-11 and 12 under the name Fredericksburg. At this term the west half of 94-12 was attached to Richland, and 95-11 was organized under the name of Stephen.

At the July term, 1857, township 95-13 was ordered organized under the name of Dayton.

At the March term, 1858, 96-12 and the south half of 97-12, were ordered organized under the name of Jacksonville, and at the same time 96-11 and the south half of 97-11, were ordered organized under the name of Utica.

In 1859, 94-12 was ordered organized under the name of Dresden. Subsequently, the east tier of sections of Dresden was detached and placed in Fredericksburg township, but these have been since replaced, except the southeast of section 12 and the northeast of 13.

A part of Dayton township has been taken from it and placed in New Hampton township, viz: the east half of northeast, and the northeast half of the southeast of section 12.

Precedent to its organization as narrated above, Chickasaw county was first created as a political subdivision of the State of



Iowa, in 1851, by chapter nine of the act of the third general assembly, section that thirty-three of which reads as follows: "That the following shall be the boundaries of a new country which shall be called Chickasaw, to-wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of township 97, range 10; thence west to the northwest corner of township 97, range 14, thence south to the southwest corner of township 94, range 14; thence east to the southwest corner of township 14, range 10; thence to the place of beginning;" which act was approved on the 15th day of January, 1851.

A chapter one hundred and twenty of the acts of the fourth general assembly, the boundaries were changed as follows: "Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of Iowa, that the north half of township 97, of ranges number 11, 12, 13 and 14, following the line of the United States subdivision thereof, shall be, and the same are hereby detached from Chickasaw county and attached to Howard.

By the act of the fourth general assembly, chapter twelve, approved January, 1843, Chickasaw county, "attached to Fayette county for election, revenue and judicial purposes," and it was by Thomas Woodle, county judge of Fayette county, that the order appointing John Bird organizing sheriff of Chickasaw county, was issued June 30th, 1853, as related in preceding pages.

And here it will be in order to present a record of the

#### SUCCEEDING COUNTY ELECTIONS

in Chickasaw county, beginning with the first canvass of election that appears of record in the election book in the office of the county auditor :

AUGUST, 1856.

The first canvass of election recorded is that of the election held in August, 1856. For State Senator, 34th District, 296 votes were cast, of which Jeremiah T. Atkins received 219 and Edward Ellis seventy-seven votes; for Representative, 48th District, E. R. Gillett received 205 and William Pattee ninety-two votes. Timothy Davis and Shepherd Leffler were opposing candidates for Congress from this, then the 2d Congressional District. Davis received 225 votes, Leffler eighty-one. For Secretary of State, Elijah Sells, 224 votes; George Snyder, seventy-nine; scattering, three. Clerk of district court, George W. Reed, 166; Wesley Swazee, 140. Prosecuting attorney, Frederick Hall, 219; A. G. Case, ninety-two.

For county surveyor, C. M. Webster received 164 votes out of a possible 303, H. H. Shaffer, being his unsuccessful competitor. Edwin Cudworth was elected coroner, receiving 168 votes, Elijah Gunn receiving ninety-one and C. M. Webster forty-seven votes for the same office. Forty-five votes were cast against the "hog law" to 236 in its favor, this beneficent measure being thus carried by a rattling majority.

SPECIAL ELECTION, OCTOBER 15, 1856.

A special election in aid of McGregor, St. Peter and Mississippi railroad. Total vote, 536; "for the railroad stock," 352 "against the railroad stock," 176; ballots incorrectly worded, eight.

APRIL 6, 1857.

At this election D. A. Jackson was elected assessor by a vote of 381 out of a total of 579 votes, M. B. Taylor receiving 195, J. Jackson one and F. Padden two. At the same election 309 votes were cast in favor of granting aid to the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska railroad and 216 votes against granting such aid. L. H. Bugsbee received 329 votes for superintendent public instruction, Maturin L. Fisher seventy-nine. For commissioner of Des Moines river improvement. Edwin Manning received 329 votes to Gideon S. Bailey's eighty-nine. For Register State Land Office. W. H. Holmes, 328; T. S. Parvin, eighty-nine.

AUGUST 3 1857.

Lorenzo Bailey was elected county judge, receiving 438 votes against I. C. H. Miller's 338. F. D. Bosworth was elected recorder and treasurer, the vote standing 421 for Bosworth to 353 for Wesley Swazee. For Sheriff, Frederick Padden, 414; A. E. Bigelow, 350. Surveyor, C. M. Webster, 430; H. H. Shaffer, 349. F. K. Figons was elected coroner and E. D. Filer, drainage commissioner. On the question of the adoption of the new constitution 685 votes were cast, 389 in favor of, and 296 against. On striking out the word "white" from the suffrage clause—ninety-one votes "yes," 109 votes "no."

OCTOBER 31, 1857.

In question of railroad tax—whole number of votes cast, 644; "yes," 270; "no," 375.

APRIL 5, 1858.

School fund commissioner, whole number of votes cast, 829; C. A. Orvis was elected. A. W. Billings, was elected surveyor;

Dr. J. Mack coroner; P. Green, drainage commissioner. On the question of locating county seat, 823 votes were cast the returns showing that Forest City received 432 votes and New Hampton 391. At this election a vote was taken on the question of rescinding the votes in aid of the McGregor, St. Peter and Mississippi and the Cedar Valley Branch of the Chicago, Iowa, and Nebraska railroads, the opponents of railroad aid coming out victorious by decided majorities. A proposed tax to the amount of \$1,300 to aid in the construction of a bridge across the Big Cedar at Nashua was defeated.

OCTOBER 12, 1858.

C. O. Case was elected county clerk and William Tucker, drainage commissioner. The vote for secretary of state was as follows: Elijah Sells, 427; Samuel Douglass, 322; total vote, 749. For member of Congress, 2d congressional district, William Vandever received 477 votes and W. E. Leffingwell, 322.

OCTOBER 11, 1859.

There were 730 votes cast for county judge, E. H. Dore receiving 397, C. A. Orvis 333; W. E. Beach was elected recorder and treasurer; Patrick Gilligan, sheriff; G. J. Tisdale, superintendent; E. W. Davis surveyor, A. E. Bigelow, drainage commissioner and A. J. Smith, coroner.

NOVEMBER, 1860.

C. O. Case was elected clerk of district court, receiving the entire vote, 854. The following gentlemen were elected members of the first board of county supervisors: C. D. Johnson, F. D. Bosworth, Vinal Thayer, E. Perry, E. W. Davis, Gideon Gardner, E. Darst, William Tucker, Almon Harris, J. H. Vantassell, M. L. Palmer, D. R. Kerby.

OCTOBER 8, 1861.

There were 700 votes cast for county judge, Caleb Arnold receiving 483, W. C. Mitchell 217. Other county officers were elected as follows: Charles Fitch, surveyor; J. A. Sawin, superintendent; Buell Sherman, coroner; Edwin Cudworth, drainage commissioner. For representative 685 votes were polled, of which J. F. Wilson received 440, William Tucker 244, and one "scattering."

FEBRUARY 25, 1862.

This was a special election for state senator, 40th senatorial dis-

trict. But 294 votes were cast, of which G. W. Howard received 223, A. G. Case thirty-eight, scattering thirty-three.

OCTOBER 14, 1862.

C. O. Case was elected clerk of the district court and Samuel H. Young, surveyor. There were 112 votes cast by Chickasaw county volunteers in the service in various regiments.

OCTOBER 13, 1863.

For representative, 49th district, 927 votes were cast, Henry C. Vinton receiving 666 and Daniel Powd 261. S. G. Meriam was elected county judge his competitors being Caleb Arnold and B. E. Morton. The other officers elected were, Samuel H. Young, surveyor, F. D. Bosworth, superintendent; Buell Sherman, coroner; Edwin Cudworth, drainage commissioner.

NOVEMBER 8, 1864.

C. O. Case was elected clerk of district court, receiving 772 votes, the entire number cast. B. E. Morton was elected recorder. One hundred and 35 votes were cast by soldiers in the field. The question to appropriate funds to build county building was decided affirmatively by a vote of 497 to 270, and it was also voted to appropriate funds to build bridge at Nashua, there being 445 votes for, to 336 votes against.

OCTOBER, 10, 1865,

The total vote for representative, 49th district, was 908, as follows: G. J. Tisdale 489, D. A. Babcock 409, A. G. Case nine, W. A. Pitts 1. G. A. Hamilton was elected county judge, his competitors being M. C. Ayres and John Mays. John Dixon was elected sheriff, J. C. Johnson superintendent, S. H. Young surveyor, John A. Green drainage commissioner, L. H. Weller coroner.

OCTOBER 9, 1866.

C. O. Case was unanimously elected clerk of district court, total vote 1,085; B. E. Morton was elected recorder, and C. M. Webster, treasurer. The proposition to devote the swamp land fund to the erection of bridges and to public improvements, carried.

OCTOBER, 1867.

The total vote cast for representative, 4th district, was 1,074, of which William Tucker received 493. His unsuccessful competitors were G. J. Tisdale and L. H. Weller. G. A. Hamilton was elected county judge, James A. Albertson, sheriff, W. W. Birdsall, treasurer, J. C. Johnson superintendent, H. H. Potter surveyor, William Everingham coroner, J. H. Powers drainage commissioner.

NOVEMBER, 1868.

The Iowa Republican presidential electors received 995 votes; Democratic presidential electors, 520; total votes, 1,515. For Secretary of State, Ed. Wright received 1,023 votes; David Hammer, 492. William B. Allison received 960 votes for congress (3d congressional district); William Mills 529, and L. A. Thomas 4. "For the tax," 725; "against the tax," 619." Zelotes Bailey was elected clerk of district court and B. E. Morton county recorder.

OCTOBER, 1869.

Representative, 57th district, total vote, 1,268; G. W. Butterfield 506, D. B. Hanan 441, William Tucker 311, one "scattering." The "stock act" was carried. W. W. Birdsall was elected county treasurer, G. A. Hamilton auditor, E. W. Beach sheriff, H. H. Potter surveyor, W. P. Bennett superintendent, Dr. Amos Babcock, coroner.

OCTOBER, 1870.

At this election 1,480 votes were polled, of which W. G. Donnan received 967, and J. T. Stoneman 517, for congress; C. C. Cole, William E. Miller and James F. Day received majorities for judges of the supreme court; Ed. Wright received 988 for secretary of state, and county officers were elected as follows: C. A. Harris recorder, Joseph F. Grawe superintendent. Zelotes Bailey was elected clerk of district and circuit court. The proposition to establish a high school at Bradford was voted down.

OCTOBER 16, 1871.

For governor C. C. Carpenter received 1,001, and J. C. Knapp 694; for representative, 57th district, 1,677 votes were cast, of which D. B. Hanan received 889, his competitor being G. W. Butterfield. John Foley was elected treasurer, G. A. Hamilton auditor, R. O. Sheldon sheriff, C. Seeber Surveyor, J. F. Grawe superintendent, Dr. A. Babcock coroner, John A. Green members of board of supervisors. The proposition to restrain stock from running at large was voted down. The proposition to levy a tax of two mills to purchase a county poor farm, was decided affirmatively by a vote of 1,003 to 435.

NOVEMBER 12, 1872.

Total number of votes cast 1,660. For president, Grant received 1,122 and Greeley 501. Z. Bailey was elected clerk of courts, C.

A. Harris recorder, W. D. Stafford member of the board of supervisor.

OCTOBER 14, 1873.

For representative, total vote 1,832; D. B. Hanan received 894 votes, F. D. Bosworth 641, William Tucker 296, and Daniel Pond one. George A. Hamilton was elected auditor, John Foley treasurer, R. O. Sheldon sheriff, J. F. Grawe superintendent, W. R. Geeting surveyor, Dr. I. K. Gardner coroner, E. R. Dickinson and E. C. Abbott member of board of supervisors. The county jail tax was defeated by a vote of 1,018 to 176.

OCTOBER 14, 1874.

Total vote, 1,500; J. M. Gilliland was elected clerk of the courts, C. A. Harris Recorder and E. C. Abbott member of Board of Supervisors.

OCTOBER 18, 1875.

The total vote for representative, 63d district, was 1,811; John McHugh was the successful candidate. Lee Chapman was elected auditor, John Foley treasurer, R. O. Sheldon sheriff, W. D. Collins superintendent, W. R. Geeting surveyor, I. K. Gardner coroner, Thomas Kenyon member of board of supervisors.

NOVEMBER 7, 1876.

J. M. Gilliland was elected clerk of the courts, C. A. Harris recorder, W. A. Eastman surveyor, E. R. Dickinson member of supervisors.

OCTOBER 9, 1877.

William B. Perrin was elected representative, 63d district; total vote polled, 2,471. The following county officers were elected: Lee Chapman auditor, John Foley treasurer, R. O. Sheldon, sheriff, W. D. Collins superintendent, W. A. Eastman surveyor, I. K. Gardner coroner, John Houser member of the board of supervisors.

OCTOBER 8, 1878.

Total vote, 2,539. J. M. Gilliland was elected clerk of the courts, C. A. Harris recorder, George W. Cotant surveyor, Thos. Kenyon supervisor.

OCTOBER 14, 1879.

Total vote, 2,974. W. B. Perrin was elected representative, 67th district; E. P. Sheffield auditor, John A. Green treasurer, R. O. Sheldon sheriff, Henry A. Simons superintendent, A. E. Quaife surveyor, I. K. Gardner coroner. At this election it was

voted to increase the members of the board of county supervisors from three to five.

NOVEMBER 2, 1880.

Total vote, 2,758. J. M. Lynch was elected clerk of the court, A. H. Wight recorder, John Hauser, Hiram Bailey and Charles Cummerford supervisors. The act restraining stock from running at large was voted down.

OCTOBER 11, 1881.

The total number of votes cast for representative, 67th district, was 1,763, of which James F. Babcock received 1,005, and Buell Sherman 758. E. P. Sheffield was elected auditor, John A. Green treasurer, Horton Mandeville sheriff, J. A. Lapham superintendent, C. L. Gabrilson supervisor, Geo. W. Cotant surveyor, I. K. Gardner coroner.

JUNE 27, 1882.

The vote on the Prohibition Amendment in Chickasaw county was as follows: Total vote, 2,450; for the amendment, 1,382; against the amendment 1,068—majority in favor of the amendment, 314.



### CHAPTER III.

---

FIRST THINGS ; FIRST SETTLERS ; FIRST BIRTHS ; FIRST SERMONS ; FIRST STORE ; FIRST COURT ; FIRST MARRIAGE LICENSE ; FIRST ROAD ; FIRST TAX LEVY ; FIRST NATURALIZATION PAPERS ; EARLY TREASURER'S REPORT ; FIRST BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS ; FIRST COUNTY OFFICERS ; RECORDS FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ; BUILDING OF COURT HOUSE.

---

While the question of who has the honor of being the first white settler within the borders of what now constitutes the county of Chickasaw, lies clothed in doubt, misty tradition hath it, that several parties during the year 1840, came to the Indian Reservation, at or near where Bradford now stands, and staid all summer, breaking land, fencing, etc, (SEE BRADFORD TOWNSHIP). Still, as they did not remain permanently, they can hardly be considered in the light of first SETTLERS. The balance of evidence seems to point to the fact that Truman Merritt, who settled near Greenwood in the year 1848, is entitled to the name of being the first who brought his family into the county with the intention of remaining.



The first child born was a daughter of the above Merritt, who first saw light during the year 1850.

The first male child, however, was Elmer Case, whose birth in 1851, near Greenwood, brought joy to his family and a prospective voter to the county.

The first sermons preached were delivered in the year 1853, by a Mr. Ingam, at the house of Mr. John Bird, at the village of Bradford.

The first store ever opened in the county we are credibly informed was owned by J. A. J. Bird at Bradford and the date of its initiation was probably 1853.

For fuller particulars of all these events, we would respectfully refer our readers to the history of Bradford township, where, as that being the first settled portion of the county, these matters have been treated more in detail.

The first entry in the records of the county judges of Chickasaw county describes the boundaries of the county, and recites the order for organization and the appointment of John Bird "organizing Sheriff" in the election held on the 13th day of August, A. D., 1853. This, together with the entry recording the session of court held Sept. 5th, 1853, at which no business was transacted, signed by J. Lyons as county judge, and attested by S. C. Goddard as clerk, has been already quoted.

On the 5th of September, 1853, appears the first record of a marriage license granted, the contracting parties being Joseph Aving and Elizabeth Jarrard.

October 10, court again convened, but no business was transacted. At the session held November 7th, a petition signed by John Bird, Andrew Sample, E. A. Haskell and others, for a county road, to be called the West Union and Bradford road, was referred to E. A. Haskel as commissioner, to report at the next term of court.

On the 31st of December, 1853, a marriage license was granted to John Kerr and Loraine Philps.

On the 2d of January, 1854, Joseph Andrews was appointed selecting agent for swamp lands. On the 10th of February, 1854, S. E. Hackleton was granted license to peddle for three months, and on the same date a marriage license was granted to C. Rowley and Mary A. Thouraman. After this date matrimonial permits are of increasingly frequent occurrences.

At the April term, 1854, a petition of D. A. Babcock, S. C. Haynes and Joseph Andrews for a county road, to be called the West Union and Greenwood road, was referred to Samuel Thompson as commissioner; road petitions and proceedings consequent thereon, forming a very considerable portion of the business transacted from and after this date. At the May term it was "ordered that the West Union and Bradford road become a road sixty-six feet wide, and that all roads hereafter be of the same width."

At a special term, August 28th, 1855, [From the connection of this paragraph with others, it is evident that this date should be 1854,] it was ordered that a tax on the taxable property in this county should be levied as follows: for state purposes, 3 mills; for county purposes, 4½ mills; for school purposes, ½ mill; and a poll of 50 cents on each person liable thereto.

August 29th, 1854, "ordered that E. A. Haskell receive the appointment of recorder and treasurer."

Applications for county roads were especially numerous during the year 1855.

At a special term held July 23d, 1855, the following tax rates were established for the current year: for state purposes, 1½ mills; for county, 6 mills; for schools, 1½ mills; for roads, 3 mills; and a poll tax of 50 cents. An order was issued for an election of county officers, a vote for or against restraining hogs from running at large after April 1st, 1856, and a vote for or against vacating Greenwood village, the election to be held on the first Monday in August; and that Brink precinct be attached to Chickasaw for election purposes.

On the 20th of August the village of Greenwood was ordered vacated. On the same date appear the following entries:

"Ordered that Hazzard Green be appointed to sell intoxicating liquors for medicinal, sacramental and mechanical purposes only, for the salary of \$50 per year, to sell in the Obispo precinct only;" and a similar entry with reference to J. A. J. Bird in the town of Bradford.

The first entry of B. E. DePuy as county judge, is of date October 1st, 1855, and has reference to the appointment of a commissioner to locate a road to be known as the Waucoma road.

November 5th, 1855, James Lyons qualified as a justice of the peace.

At the February term, 1856, a petition was presented by Osgood Gowen from J. C. H. Miller and 224 others, for the selection of the county seat at New Hampton, in the geographical center of the county, and an order was granted for a vote to be taken at the April election.

At the May term, 1856, W. E. Andrews, county judge ex-officio, "Samuel P. Elder was appointed liquor agent for the town of Bradford, at an annual salary of \$100, and it was ordered that any liquor agent now acting in said county, or hereafter appointed, shall charge 25 per cent. profit on the cost of any intoxicating liquor sold by any such agent, until otherwise ordered by the court."

At the July term, 1856, it was ordered that a "road poll tax of \$2 be laid on each person liable to pay county poll tax." The total tax levy for 1856 was 8½ mills. One mill of the tax levied for road and bridge purposes, was "for building bridges too expensive to be constructed from the ordinary road tax.

"In pursuance of the code of Iowa, and by request of the people of Chickasaw county, an election was called for the 15th day of October, 1856, to vote upon the following question: "Whether the said county of Chickasaw will take \$100,000 of the stock of the McGregor, St. Peters and Missouri river railroad company; said road to run by the way of Bradford; and issue bonds in payment therefore, bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, the principal sum payable in twenty years; and that a tax be levied on the taxable property of said county, for the payment of interest and principal; said railroad company to pay the interest on said bonds until said road is in operation to the west line of said county. The form of the vote shall be: 'For the railroad stock,' or, 'Against the railroad stock.'"

By reference to the record of elections, it will be seen that at the election called for the above purpose, the question was decided in the affirmative, by a vote of 356 to 176; but at a subsequent election, held April 5th, 1858, this vote was rescinded by a majority as decisive.

The first record of naturalization is of date October 22d, 1856, when James Prior, a native of England, declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States.

At the November term, 1856, S. B. Carpenter was appointed

The following is a copy of the settlement with the county treasurer of Chickasaw county, from September 1st, 1865, to March 18th, 1856:

	To Chickasaw County,	Dr.
To tax-list for 1855 .....	\$	5,853 14
" 281 polls.....		140 50
" marriage fees.....		10 00
" fines.....		10 00
" balance for 1854.....		183 43

		Cr.
By delinquent tax.....	\$	1,635 72
“ county warrants paid .....		787 97
“ road “ “ .....		212 77
“ error in tax list .....		21 83
“ payment to state treasurer.....		500 00
“ “ “ school fund commissioners .....		486 65
“ “ “ “ “ “ .....		15 00

The amount of taxable property as returned by the assessors for 1856, was \$1,071,726.

There was placed in the hands of the county treasurer for collection, on the 15th day of September, 1856, the sum of \$9,045.74, divided as follows: Amount of tax on property, \$8,841.74; amount of poll tax, \$204.00.

At the March term, 1857, a proclamation was issued, calling an election, to be held on the 6th day of April, 1857, to vote upon the question of taking \$100,000 of stock of the Cedar Valley branch of the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska railroad company; said road to be run on the east side of the Little Cedar river, from a point near Bradford to a point at or near the village of Chickasaw; issuing bonds bearing 10 per cent. interest and running twenty years therefor. This proposition prevailed at the election by a vote of 309 to 216, but was also subsequently rescinded.

At the May term, 1857, the commissioners appointed by an act of the legislature to relocate the county seat of Chickasaw county, reported in favor of the geographical center at New Hampton.

The total tax levy for 1857 was 11½ mills. A road poll of one dollar was levied, in addition to a poll tax of fifty cents, for county purposes.

We find under date of June 2d, 1857, that the county judge issue two marriage licenses, one to C. W. Taylor, and one to Geo. B. Holcomb, both to marry the same lady, and tradition hath it that the old adage in regard to two stools was borne out in this case as the lady remains unmarried to this day.

The first mention of Nashua in the county judge's record is, under date of December 15th, 1857, as follows: "Ordered that \$1,000 of the special property tax be expended to construct a bridge across the Big Cedar at Nashua."

At Forest City, May 12th, 1858, the board of equalization reduced the assessment of 1857 upon real estate fifty per cent. The tax levy for 1858 was 9½ mills.

Frederick Padden resigned as sheriff November 3d, 1858, and Charles E. Zwicks was appointed to fill the vacancy. W. S. Mower was appointed deputy sheriff and E. M. Aiken was appointed deputy clerk by C. O. Case. For 1859, a county tax of 4 mills, and a school tax of 1 mill were levied. On the 27th of October, 1859 the official bond of the county treasurer was placed at \$8,000. For 1860, the tax rates for county and school purposes were the same as for the previous year.

The records of the board of county supervisors begin with the first meeting held at New Hampton on the 7th day of January, 1861. The following is a list of the

#### FIRST BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

C. D. Johnson, Bradford twp.	E. Darst, Dayton twp.
F. D. Bosworth, Richland "	Wm. Tucker, Chickasaw twp.
Vinal Thayer, Dresden "	Almon Harris, Deerfield "
E. Perry, Fredricksburg "	J. H. Vantassell, Washington twp
E. W. Davis, Stapleton "	W. L. Palmer, Jacksonville "
Gideon Gardner, New Hampton	D. B. Kerby, Utica "

M. L. Palmer was elected president of the board, but resigned, and William Tucker was elected in his place. The appropriate committees were then appointed. On the following day rules and

regulations were adopted, and miscellaneous business proceeded with.

At this term H. C. Baldwin was allowed ten cents per night for sleeping in the county office until further arrangements were made. The sheriff was instructed to move the safe, books, stationery and wood, for the use of the county officers, from the school house in New Hampton to the court room, and was given general charge of the few effects of the county. Blank books, to cost not more than seventy-five cents per copy, were voted the justices of the peace in each township, to be used as dockets. The total expense of this session, including pay of the supervisors, was \$141.40.

On the 1st of June, 1861, the total amount of money in the county treasurer's hands for disbursement, was \$3,302.93.

At the June term, 1861, it was ordered that the partition of the school building be removed, that the room be also used for district court purposes, and that Cotant & McCulloch's building be rented for county offices, for one year at \$60 per year.

At the same term the clerk was authorized to advertise for sealed proposals for the purchase of a farm, to be used as a county poor farm. At the October term, it was reported inadvisable, in the then condition of the county finances, to purchase a poor farm.

In the proceedings of the January term, 1862, appears the following entry: "Wam-no-cat and Mich-a-gan (Indians) presented accounts for bounty on wild cats. It was moved and seconded that the said accounts be allowed. The yeas and nays being called for, resulted nine yeas, and three nays. The members voting in the negative, said they did so on account of the oath of an Indian not being considered valid by our laws."

A resolution was introduced at this session, authorizing the employment of an attorney to represent the county in the case of Chickasaw county vs. Lorenzo Bailey, in the supreme court of the state, and recommending J. O. Crosby.

A. W. Billings was appointed county surveyor in place of Chas. Fitch, who had left the state. The appointment of D. A. Jackson to be deputy sheriff was approved.

H. C. Baldwin, deputy recorder and treasurer, was requested and authorized to sleep in the county office, the records and moneys of the county being deemed liable to robbery and de-

struction, and Mr. B. was authorized to choose a person "as his company nights in said office," both to receive a suitable compensation, and accommodations to be furnished them by the county.

At the June term, 1862, citizens of Nashua asked an appropriation of \$1,000 to build a bridge across the Big Cedar, which petition was referred to the committee on roads and bridges.

At the September term, 1862, Eli Darst was appointed county surveyor, vice E. W. Davis resigned, and Emily Stebbins was appointed deputy recorder and treasurer. At the October term, T. N. Skinner was appointed to fill vacancy as county superintendent occasioned by the removal of J. H. Sawin from the state. At this term, also, C. O. Case was authorized to purchase a county seal; and the salary of the clerk was fixed at \$500 per year, deducting therefrom the amount of fees received.

At the September meeting of the board, 1863, the salary of the clerk was fixed at \$600, exclusive of pay for assistance.

At the January term, 1864, the county treasurer's bond was fixed at \$16,000. A petition from Nashua for \$3,000 to build a bridge across the Big Cedar at that point, was denied, on the ground that the law prescribed the course to be pursued in such cases.

As an indication of the mighty onward march of progressive civilization, it may be mentioned that the board at this term authorized the clerk to purchase two kerosene lamps, one for the clerk's and the other for the treasurer's office.

At the June meeting, 1864, Mary Case was appointed deputy clerk.

J. H. Powers, for many citizens of the county, asked that, at the next regular election, the question of a sufficient appropriation from funds accruing out of the school lands to construct a bridge across the Big Cedar at Nashua, be submitted to the voters, and also asked that action be taken in the matter of providing a suitable county building, the latter of which requests is treated of in detail elsewhere in this book. The board arranged for ascertaining the amount necessary to construct a suitable bridge at Nashua, preparatory to submitting the matter to the voters.

The following bounties were fixed for scalps of wild animals; gray gophers, three cents; pocket gophers, five cents; wild cats, \$3; prairie wolves, \$5; timber wolves, \$5.

At the September meeting, 1864, it was decided to submit to the voters, at the November election, the question of appropriating

\$4,000 out of the swamp land fund, to construct a bridge over the Big Cedar, at Nashua.

The tidal wave of progress still sweeps onward, over the bosom of the mighty west, and the sheriff is authorized to "procure a stove-pipe and fit a room for holding court."

At the meeting of the board of supervisors in June, 1865, the clerk was authorized to draw a warrant for fifty cents to pay for recording the deed given for the land donated by G. Gardner for the site of a court house, also a resolution was passed, appointing Messrs. Palmer of Jacksonville, Haslam of Dayton, and Woodbridge of Bradford, a committee to enter into a contract on the part of the county, with some party or parties to build a court house.

The above contract was immediately placed before the board and bears date of June 6, 1865, and recites that the said court house was to be completed by November 25, 1865, and the terms of payment, according to the contract, were to be \$840 cash down, \$500 when the frame was raised, \$500 when enclosed and finally eleven hundred and forty dollars when the building was completed and accepted by the county. The three last sums to be paid out of the funds known as the swamp land fund. J. H. Powers was the contractor, who filed his bond for the faithful performance of said contract, June 7th of the same year.

The tax assessments for the year are set as follows: state tax, 2 mills; county, 4 mills; school, 1 mill; bridge,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mill, and volunteer fund, 6 mills.

A resolution was passed by the board of supervisors at the September meeting, 1865, whereby W. B. Grant, W. Tucker and N. F. Lighthall were appointed a committee to oversee and take charge of the building of a bridge across the Cedar at Nashua, the erection of which was at that time being canvassed.

In October, 1865, a resolution was brought before the board, and by them passed, appointing to the office of county judge, G. A. Hamilton, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal from the county of S. G. Merriam.

In January, 1866, at a regular session of the board of supervisors, W. E. Beach, E. D. Woodbridge and E. K. Morrill were appointed a committee to ascertain the present and prospective indebtedness of the county, and devise some honorable means to restore the warrants of said county to par and preserve the credit thereof.



At this meeting, the committee appointed at the September term, 1865, to oversee the building of the Nashua bridge, reported that the amount appropriated for that purpose would not be enough by two thousand dollars, and asked the appropriation of that sum, but after much discussion the matter was laid over until more prosperous times would allow it.

The indebtedness of the county as reported to the board, Jan. 1866, was as follows:

Outstanding unpaid warrants.....	\$ 8,510 98
Account of volunteers presented this session.....	13,315 51
Ordinary accounts.....	991 12
Probable additions.....	100 00

---

Total indebtedness.....\$22,917 61

Again at the meeting of the board of supervisors in June, 1866, the matter of the bridge at Nashua comes to the front and E. D. Woodbridge, Michael Cagley, and H. Case were appointed a committee to let the contract to build it if possible, and adding the sum of five hundred dollars to the four thousand dollars already appropriated for that purpose and to be helped by a private subscription of fifteen hundred dollars, the said bridge to be finished by March 1, 1867.

The tax rate fixed by the board for 1866, was as follows: state tax, 2½ mills; county tax, 4 mills; with a poll tax of fifty cents; school, 1 mill; bridge, 3 mills, and volunteer fund, 10 mills.

According to a report made by the assessors of the several townships, to the board, the total valuation of the county for the year 1867 was \$1,177,959.00.

At the June session, 1867, we find a report signed by A. G. Case, S. F. Eastman and E. H. Hall as commissioners, that they had let the contract for building the bridge over the Big Cedar at Nashua, to A. Spaulding, and that he had complied with the terms of the contract, and that the bridge was finished or so nearly so as to warrant them in pronouncing the contract complete.

At the meeting of the board, September, 1868, a resolution was adopted, wherein it is recited that as "Chickasaw county was in debt over seven thousand dollars, in the county fund, its warrants were depreciated to a ruinous rate, and as it is best to pay as promptly as possible to restore credit, Resolved, That a special

levy of tax be made, of 2 mills on the dollar, to be levied from year to year until such debt be wiped out," which measure was to be submitted to a vote of the people at the regular election in November, 1868, said tax to be levied for 1869, and subsequently at the election above mentioned, the people of the county endorsed the action of the board and the tax was levied.

At the June meeting, 1869; a petition was presented, asking that the board take some steps toward building a jail, but on its being referred to a committee it was returned with the report, that in their opinion there was no necessity for one, and this action seems to have been final, for the county, although owning very fine buildings, still does not possess a jail, but send its prisoners to Decorah for safe keeping.

At the June term, 1872, the board consummated the buying of the farm now used as the poor farm, together with all the improvements, and offered to receive bids for the erection of suitable buildings.

They also contracted with Mosler, Bahrman & Co., of Chicago, Ill, for two large safes for county records, at a cost of \$2,450.

At a special session of the board held October 7th, 1872, the contract was let to A. W. Utter of New Hampton to erect the house on the poor farm at an expense of \$1,360.80

The following report shows the condition of the revenue in said county from Jan. 1st to June 2d, 1873.

## STATE FUND.

Cash in treasury .....	\$ 266 37
Total collections.....	3,706 16.
Total.....	3,972 53
Disbursement.....	2,914 82.
Balance in treasury.....	1,057 71

## COUNTY FUND.

Cash in treasury .....	173 21
Total collections.....	9,502 58
Total.....	9,675 79
Disbursements .....	9,675 79

## WARRANTS.

Amount of outstanding warrants, last report	2,708 05
“ “ warrants issued since “ “	5,769 09
Treasurer's salary.....	1,388 65
Total.....	9,865 79
Amount warrants reduced since last report...	9,673 98

Amount of outstanding warrants.....	191 81
-------------------------------------	--------

## BOND FUND.

Cash in treasury. January report.....	419 93
Total collections.....	1,487 72
Total.....	1,907 65
Disbursements.....	1,642 64
Balance in treasury.....	265 01

## SCHOOL FUND.

Cash in treasury, January.....	798 81
Total collections.....	1,593 38
Total.....	2,392 19
Disbursements .....	939 10
Balance in treasury.....	1,453 09

## ROAD FUND.

Cash in treasury .....	295 41
Total collections.....	2,555 94
Total.....	2,851 35
Disbursements .....	1,587 13
Balance in treasury.....	264 22

## SCHOOL HOUSE FUND.

Cash on hand, January.....	1,193 35
Total collections .....	6,727 43
Total.....	7,920 78
Disbursements .....	6,203 58
Balance in treasury.....	1,717 20

## TEACHER'S FUND.

Cash on hand, January.....	2,870 37
Total collections.....	10,819 85
Total.....	13,690 22
Disbursement .....	11,243,63
On hand .....	2,446 59

## CONTINGENT FUND.

Cash on hand, January .....	1,140 26
Total collections.....	4,586 70
Total.....	5,726 96
Disbursements .....	4,713 53
Balance in treasury.....	1,013 43

## BRIDGE FUND.

Cash in treasury, January.....	765 40
Total collections.....	2,374 80
Total.....	3,140 20
Disbursements .....	1,092 15
Balance in treasury.....	2,048 05

## INSANE FUND.

Cash on hand, January.....	178 42
Total collections.....	668 69
Total.....	847 11
Disbursements .....	829 12
Balance in treasury.....	17 99

## POOR FARM FUND.

Cash in treasury, January.....	160 15
Total collections.....	1,823 95
Total.....	2,984 10
Disbursements .....	2,115 51
Balance in treasury.....	868 59

## INTEREST ON PERMANANT SCHOOL FUND.

Cash on hand, January .....	912 35
Total collections.....	1,592 01
<hr/>	
Total.....	2,504 36
Disbursements.....	882 43
<hr/>	
Balance in treasury.....	1,621 93

## PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.

Cash on hand, January.....	47 00
Total collections.....	1,478 68
<hr/>	
Total.....	1,525 68
Amount loaned .....	1,175 68
<hr/>	
Balance in treasury.....	350 00

## RAILROAD TAXES.

1868 on hand.....	20 85
1870 " " .....	126 86
1872 " " .....	74 20
Total collections.....	113 40
<hr/>	
Total.....	336 61
Total disbursements .....	117 41
<hr/>	
Balance in treasury.....	117 90



CHAPTER IV.

---

COUNTY SEAT CONTEST; THE FIRST CONTEST; "BATTLE OF BAILEY'S LANE;" THE CONFLICT OF 1880.

---

"Commissioners' report. Filed in the office of the clerk of the district court, August 14th, A. D. 1854. J. A. J. Bird, clerk.

"To the Hon. County Judge of Chickasaw county, Iowa:

"The undersigned commissioners appointed by the judge of the second judicial district for the state of Iowa, to locate and establish the county seat of said county of Chickasaw, respectfully report that, having had the same under the due consideration, they have selected the town of Bradford in the county and state aforesaid, as the point at which said county seat is hereby located and established.

"Given under our hands at Bradford in the county of Chickasaw and state of Iowa this fourteenth day of August, A. D. 1854.

"Commissioners { WM. McCLINTOCK,  
JOHN B. ONSTINE."

At the February term of the county court, 1856, a petition of J. C. H. Miller and two hundred and twenty-four others was presented, praying "that at the next April election to be holden thereafter in said county, a vote shall be taken between Bradford,

the existing county seat of said county and New Hampton, for the county seat."

The prayer of the petitioners was granted, and in accordance therewith an election was held, and at the canvassing of the votes, the vote of Washington township was rejected, and the board of canvassers declared that "Bradford received 203 votes and New Hampton received 203 votes." On the 6th day of June, 1856, an information was filed by Osgood Gowen in the office of the clerk of the district court, asking for a writ of mandamus, and in accordance with the prayer a writ was issued against the board of county canvassers on the same day. On the day following, two of the members of the board, W. E. Andrews, ex-officio county judge, and John Bird, justice of the peace, filed the following response, which is given in full, as it contains nearly a full history of the case, and is moreover, a unique specimen of that legal explicitness which is supposed to be attained only through a multiplicity of technical verbiage:

"THE STATE OF IOWA, } In the District Court of said county."  
 "CHICKASAW COUNTY. } To June term thereof, A. D. 1856."

"In the matter of the information of Osgood Gowen for mandamus against the board of canvassers of Chickasaw county aforesaid, in the matter of an election between Bradford and New Hampton, for the establishment of the county seat of said county.

"And the said W. E. Andrews and John Bird, canvassers of election in said information, mentioned, come, and answering, say that they admit that at the February term of the county court, of said county of Chickasaw, A. D. 1856, a petition was presented to said county court, by J. C. H. Miller and two hundred and twenty-four citizens, as alleged in said information, upon which said petition an order was made by said county court that the question of a relocation of said county seat of Chickasaw county be submitted to a vote of the legal voters of said county in the year A. D. 1856; and that, in pursuance of said order submitting the question of a relocation of said county seat to a vote of the legal voters of said county at the April election A. D. 1856, said question was submitted and voted on at the said election. And your respondents, further answering, say severally and respectively, that in the returns of said election and according to the same, it did appear that the town of New Hampton had received the number of two hun-

dred and thirteen votes for the county seat of said county, and that the town of Bradford received two hundred and six votes for the county seat of said county as appeared on the face of the papers purporting to be said returns of the said election. And your respondents aver, and so they answer, that all the returns so made to the county judge of the county of Chickasaw, embracing to-wit: all the returns from the several townships and precincts of said county of Chickasaw at the election so held in and for said county, were then and there, to-wit: at Bradford in said county, duly examined and canvassed as the law directs, by said board of canvassers; and that after such canvass and examination as aforesaid it was found that the said election returns at the election held as aforesaid for the purpose aforesaid, were duly and properly made in compliance with law, with the exception of the township of Washington in said county; and after duly examining and canvassing the returns of said election so held as aforesaid, for the purpose aforesaid for all the townships and precincts in said county, it was found that returns of the votes for the said township of Washington were insufficient, irregular and of no effect, and utterly null and void in law. And so said respondents, answering as aforesaid, aver that said votes of the town of Washington, given at said election, having been found and decided by the said board of canvassers, after due examination and canvass, to be insufficient, irregular and of no effect, and utterly null and void, were then and there, to-wit: at Bradford, aforesaid within the time required by law, duly canvassed and examined by said board of canvassers, and were then and there within the time aforesaid duly and legally rejected by said board of canvassers, after a legal canvass of the said votes and returns, then and there held for insufficiency, irregularity and nullity, and for no other reason.

“And your respondents, further answering, say that after said returns of all the said townships and precincts of the said county of Chickasaw, were so canvassed as aforesaid, and the returns of the votes of the said township of Washington were so rejected as aforesaid, the state of the canvass was as follows, to-wit:

Bradford received two-hundred and three votes, and New Hampton received two hundred and three votes; and of the votes so rejected after said canvass as aforesaid by the canvassers aforesaid, ten



votes were cast for New Hampton and three votes for Bradford; and that your respondents there made out and signed a statement of the canvass aforesaid, specifying the said number of votes so cast for the respective places aforesaid, which remains of record in the office of the county judge of said county, by reference to which will more fully appear.

"And your respondents, further answering, deny that they have done aught in the premises aforesaid; they have acted fairly, honestly and in good faith, and as they believed, and still believe, in strict accordance with law and their duty as canvassers as aforesaid. And your respondents, having fully answered herein, beg to be discharged.

"W. E. ANDREWS,  
"JOHN BIRD."

It was claimed by the relator, that the board of canvassers having decided the returns from Washington township irregular, were in duty bound to return them to the township officers for correction, and to stay the canvassing until the returns were completed as corrected. The cause was never prosecuted to a final result. A change of venue was applied for, and the case fell between the courts as it was claimed that the proper fees were not paid for the transcript, and the county seat remained at Bradford under the decision of the board of canvassers.

On the 5th day of April, 1858, another vote was taken upon the county seat question, and, according to reputable authority "the board of canvassers, by excluding the returns of Washington township for informality, and counting ten less than were actually cast in the township of Deerfield, decided that Forest City had received a legal majority."

The same authority continues: "The vote of Washington township was excluded on the ground that the poll list was wanting, and the ten from Deerfield on account of the returns not showing the full amount, they having been changed from fifty-three to forty-three in favor of New Hampton. Immediately on the result of this canvass being known the county judge adjourned court to meet at Forest City at 2 o'clock P. M.

"Within a few minutes the books, papers and furniture of the office were in transit for Forest City, as teams were in readiness, and a long string of oxen attached to a wooden "drag" for the pur-

pose of moving the safe. During this time, and while all was activity in the removal of the county offices, a meeting of citizens claiming that their rights had been invaded, was being held in an adjoining building, to take into consideration the course to be pursued.

"This meeting was addressed by some who were in a perfect frenzy of excitement, and who were in favor of taking possession of the office and retaining it where it of right belonged. Others more discreet counseled milder measures; the cooler ones finally triumphed, and a committee was appointed to commence legal proceedings to reclaim rights that were claimed to have been taken from them by those in power. In accordance with instructions, a suit was commenced at the next term of the district court, and on the 3d day of June, 1858, an information was filed in the clerk's office, asking for a writ of mandamus compelling the board of canvassers to count the votes that had been cast, including those of Washington and the ten in Deerfield. A special term of the district court was called to meet in August to hear the case at the August term on alternative writ, and after hearing, a peremptory writ was issued as prayed, and respondents appealed.

"At the same time of filing the information for a writ of mandamus, an information was filed asking for a writ of certiorari. At the special session of the district court these papers were lost, and leave was granted to file new ones at the next term of the court.

"The mandamus case was reversed in the supreme court as being an improper remedy, and in the opinion it was intimated that the proper remedy was an injunction. On the 12th day of April, 1859, an application was made to the district judge for an injunction restraining the county officers from holding their offices at any other place than at New Hampton.

"The writ was granted, final hearing to be had at the next term of district court. At the spring term of the court the injunction and the certiorari cases both came up for hearing, and were decided in favor of New Hampton, whereupon the records and county offices were again returned to New Hampton.

"This episode in the history of the county," continues our informant, "was marked with many interesting scenes, such as civil and criminal prosecutions, indictments, informations, etc., in

which some of our prominent citizens found themselves under bonds to appear at the term of the district court, or in durance vile. At one time an attempt was made to resist a warrant, and subsequently a writ of habeas corpus, and a large number on either side came in collision in the lane in front of Judge Lorenzo Bailey's and a general fight ensued, in which both parties were considerably damaged. This encounter has been humorously termed the "Battle of Bailey's Lane."

"The curtain has fallen, the scene has closed, and many of those who were then the bitterest of foes are now the warmest of friends."

The election of April 7th, 1856, in addition to the county seat struggle, developed a contest over the election of officers that for a time seriously threatened the peace of the inhabitants and engendered bitter personal quarrels that were slow to subside. An account mainly taken from the records, is here in order:

As before stated, the difficulty occurred in consequence of informality in the returns from the township of Washington. The original order for the organization of Washington precinct is as follows:

"COUNTY OFFICE, }  
"CHICKASAW COUNTY. }

Mr. Thomas Steveks—Sir: You will take notice that the county judge of this county has formed a precinct to be known as the precinct of Washington, out of the following described territory viz: township 96, north of range 13 west, and the south half of 97 north of range 13 west; and you are hereby authorized and appointed a special constable to organize the same, by posting up notices in three of the most public places in said township, that the first election in said precinct will be held on Monday, the 7th day of April 1856, at the house of S. W. Byers, for the election of the following officers and the transaction of other business named in the warrant:

"Officers, county: One county judge, to fill vacancy; one clerk of district court: one county surveyor, one school fund commissioner, full term.

"Also that a vote shall be taken on the relocation of the county seat of this county, between the present site, Bradford, and New Hampton, or the geographical center of Chickasaw county.

"Officers, township: Three township trustees; one township clerk; two justices of the peace; two constables; one assessor; one one superintendent of roads.

"Notice should be given at least fifteen days previous to the day of the election, and the electors must elect by ballot or otherwise a chairman, and proceed to elect three persons, having the qualification of voters as judges of the election, who shall appoint two clerks; and both judges and clerks must be sworn by you to faithfully discharge the duties of their respective offices.

"Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of March, A. D. 1856.

B. E. DE PUY,  
County Judge."

At the contest of the election, Osgood Gowen filed the following statement:

"That the county canvassers declared Lorenzo Bailey elected to the office of judge, George W. Reed elected to the office of district clerk, and William F. Wright elected to the office of school fund commissioner; and that there was a tie vote as between John A. Billings and C. M. Webster for office of county surveyor; whereas, in fact, J. C. H. Miller was duly elected to the office of county judge; Thomas A. Jacobs was duly elected to the office of district clerk; William Tucker was duly elected to the office of school fund commissioner, and C. M. Webster was duly elected to the office of county surveyor, each, having received a majority of the legal votes cast in said county at said election for his said office."

Among other things as causes of contest, the following were set forth:

"1st. That the judges of election of Washington precinct in said county, neglected to sign the returns sent up to the judge, and left the same otherwise informal; by reason of which informality and neglect, the county canvassers, or a majority of them, cast out the entire returns and vote of said Washington precinct, in which precinct there were fourteen votes polled, and all for the said J. C. H. Miller for county judge; and all for Thomas A. Jacobs for district clerk; and also twelve votes were given to William Tucker for school fund commissioner; and all to C. M. Webster for county surveyor."

And then he charges the canvassing board with error in not counting the vote of Washington township.

The contesting board consisted of W. E. Andrews, prosecuting attorney and ex-officio county judge, and a resident of Bradford; George W. Howard, selected on the part of the incumbents in office, at that time treasurer and recorder, and a resident of Bradford; and Henry H. Shafer selected by the contestant, Osgood Gowen, and a resident of Obispo township, now Jacksonville. The contesting board decided adversely to the contestant, and affirmed the decision of the board of canvassers. No further legal proceedings appear of record, and the incumbents held under the election.

"The public mind was in a high state of excitement, and local party feeling ran high. A public meeting was called to meet at the Brink House—a well-known hotel on the banks of the East Wapsi, about one and one-half-miles northeast of New Hampton—the objects and proceedings of which will be more fully understood by a personal of the following gem of the past."

#### INDIGNATION MEETING.

Pursuant to notice, the citizens of central, western and the northern parts of Chickasaw county, assembled at the Brink house, on Wednesday, April 23d, 1856, and organized by calling the Hon. J. C. H. Miller to the chair, and electing E. R. Gillett, Esq., secretary.

The chairman stated the object of the meeting in a few words. "It seems, he said, "that we are called together again to deliberate upon the ways and means, whereby the people—the majority of the people—claiming to be republicans, shall be heard, and the 'elective franchise' vindicated." On motion, a report (minority), from G. R. Rowley, one of the county board of canvassers, was read, and ordered to be printed in the Dubuque Tribune. On motion, a committee of three were appointed to procure counsel. Osgood Gowen, T. A. Jacobs and David Edwards were appointed said committee. Mr. Cutler introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That the proceedings of this meeting, and the report of Mr. Rowley (together with 200 circulars struck off,) be published in the Dubuque Tribune.

On motion, the meeting adjourned sine die.

E. R. GILLETT, Secretary.

J. C. H. MILLER, Chairman.

## A MINORITY REPORT

TO THE ELECTORS OF CHICKASAW COUNTY, IOWA,—As one of the canvassers of the election held in Chickasaw Co. on April 7th, deem it my duty in justice to you; to inform you of the number of votes cast at that time for the different county officers, and also for the county seat. They were as follows:

Whole number of votes cast for county judge was.....	426
Mr. Miller received of these votes.....	215
Mr. Bailey received of these votes.....	210

---

Leaving a majority in Miller's favor of..... 5

Whole number of votes cast for county clerk was.....	423
Mr. Jacobs received of these votes.....	216
Mr. Reed received of these votes.....	207

---

Leaving a majority in Mr. Jacob's favor of..... 9

Whole number of votes cast for county surveyor was.....	423
Mr. Webster received of these votes.....	196
Mr. Billings received of these votes.....	183

---

Leaving a majority in Mr. Webster's favor of..... 13

Whole number of votes cast for school fund commissioner was.....	412
Mr. Tucker received of these votes.....	219
Mr. Wright received of these votes.....	206

---

Leaving a majority in Mr. Tucker's favor of.....6

[NOTE.—It is evident that there is an error in the figures as to the above office, probably a blunder of the printer's.—ED.]

Whole number of votes cast for county seat, was.....	420
New Hampton, or geographical center, received of these votes.....	213
Bradford received of these votes.....	206

---

Leaving New Hampton, or center, a majority of.. 7

The Hon. W. E. Andrews, then acting as county judge, John Bird, Esq, and myself, constituted the board. We differed on the

validity of the returns from North Washington precinct. [The reason assigned by the canvassers for throwing out Washington precinct, was this: all the board of election in that precinct did not sign the returns, and hence this ousting business. Washington is a new precinct, having only organized at the last election, and they had not the code to guide them.] But there being two to one, they overruled me, and threw out those returns, even after having had them down on the clerk's tally list, which, if not destroyed, can yet be seen in the office; they were crossed off, and the remaining precincts counted, which changed the result of the election. If, fellow citizens, this was the first time that Bradford and its hirelings had polluted the sanctity of the ballot box we, might overlook it. It is no longer ago than last August, that we elected this same J. C. H. Miller as our county judge by over fifty majority. Then the Hon. Judge Lyons and E. A. Haskell, Esq., perverted the will of the majority of the votes of this county by throwing out a precinct with over sixty votes to obtain their ends without any just cause, as I verily believe, and so the court decided, before whom the Hon. Judge was taken, and it saw fit to bind him over to answer for fraud and corruption in changing the result of the election.

But what do we see now? The same prosecuting attorney, who took such an active part against the Hon. Judge Lyons, and had him bound over; now he is called upon to act as judge and canvasser. How much does he lack of perverting the will of the people? Has he not also taken advantage of ignorance or oversight, and changed the result of the election, when it was in his power to have avoided it? "O consistency thou art a jewel."

Fellow citizens, the day of our freedom and independence, has gone by in this far-famed county of Chickasaw; the will of the majority has to succumb to a meagre minority. The democratic will, "the greatest good to the greatest number," is perverted, and its glorious precepts trampled on with impunity. Again, the American principles, "the majority shall rule," is cast aside, and a new plank is instituted, thus: "The minority shall rule in Chickasaw Co. henceforth and forever." Fellow citizens, was ever so palpable gross a fraud perpetrated, as this? Were ever inconsistencies so glaring, as those of our Bradford neighbors? We may boast

of our love of liberty, and expatiate with owlish gravity upon the wrongs of Kansas; but I will tell you, the home ruffians in this county tower in brutal atrocity and unmitigated villainy above the Kansas-Missouri brigands. . We may talk of going to Kansas to defend the ballot box from a Missouri mob; but we know little of our duty when we thus talk and act; we little think the same thing is transpiring in our very midst; the ballot box is wrested from us,—the palladium of our liberties assaulted—the voice of the majority slighted—the rights of the people taken away!

Fellow citizens, how long shall we be slaves to the minority in this land of liberty, in this "land of the free and home of the brave?" If our voice is not to be heard and heeded at the ballot box, what security have we for our lives and our property? Are they not in jeopardy? Are they not in the hands of those that could barter them away for a "mess of pottage?" What! The minority to rule? If the minority continue to rule, how long before we are burdened with taxes. How long before we are called upon to build county buildings in Bradford? The minority rules, and we must submit! Shall we let this wrong pass unnoticed and unrebuked? Is there any assurance that there will not be a repetition of the same offence next year? and the next? and so on, for a series of years? In the language of Patrick Henry, "shall we gain strength by inaction and irresolution? shall we lay supinely on our backs, and hug the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot?" Answer these questions, fellow citizens, upon the altars of your hearts. Answer them with an eye single to the welfare, happiness and prosperity of this beautiful county.

As your canvasser, fellow citizens, I have laid the subject before you for your consideration. Hoping that you will take notice of such facts as I have submitted to you, I am, respectfully, your humble servant.

G. R. ROWLEY.

"The seed thus sown," continues our chronicler, "was destined to become prolific of bitter personal, partisan and local feeling, arousing the strongest jealousy and bitterest animosity. The first and leading question, on the advent of a settler, was, 'is he a northern or southern man?' Now that the mantle of peace has fallen upon the county, we can but look back and suppress a smile at these intestine wars and rumors of wars, that so absorbed



public interest, and, in passing, express no opinion as to the justice of either party, for a majority of the actors are still upon the stage of life."

Years have passed since the above was first written, and the solacing hand of time has further smoothed the wrinkles in the front of war, until the asperities of conflict have been softened into healing retrospect and quiet, kindly amusement; but it is not for the editor of this work to pry into the motives of men, or take sides in a cause that is dead. Sufficient it is to know, that these conflicts form part of the history of the county, and without mention of them, the history would be essentially incomplete.

With reference to the exciting county seat fight of 1858, a few additional facts may be stated by way of completing this record of early struggles for political supremacy. The more essential facts have already been given. The records in the auditor's office, are peculiarly silent concerning this interesting era. An entry in the county judge's book under date of March 2d, 1858, states that "a petition of Hiram Bailey and 398 others, for a vote on the relocation of the county seat at a place known as Forest City, situated on sections 12 and 13, township 94, range 10, "was granted by Lorenzo Bailey, county judge. Another entry states that the election was "canvassed April 12th, 1858, and Forest City was found to have a majority for the county seat." "I hereby declare Forest City to be the county seat in and for Chickasaw county, Iowa. LORENZO BAILEY, County Judge," On the opposite page another entry recites the same alleged facts, and also orders that the "court, adjourn to meet at Forest City at 2 o'clock P. M.," and the county officers are "ordered to remove their records to Forest City. Signed.

LORENZO BAILEY,  
County Judge.

[Attest.] J. H. POWERS,

Deputy Clerk.

Out of this order grew the excitement and complications heretofore mentioned, which led to the scenes of disorder and the celebrated "Battle of Bailey's Lane." An old and responsible citizen, an eye witness to the scenes, thus briefly relates some of the occurrences:

"You see," said he, to his inquisitor, "Judge Bailey lived at

Forest City, had property there, and was naturally interested in the growth of the place. Immediately after the canvassing of the election and the throwing out of enough votes to give a majority to Forest City, a posse was brought to New Hampton to remove the records. The posse numbered about seventy-five persons who came principally from Forest City and Bradford. The people of New Hampton at first refused to submit to a removal of the records, and made preparations to resist, many coming in from this vicinity to fight against the removal if necessary.

"The opposing forces met over Gurley's store, where the county safe and books were. The Forest City people first went up, and were followed by the opposing faction. For a time there was the wildest excitement, and it looked as if trouble was imminent. But, under peaceable advice, the Forest City people were permitted to take the records. They threw the safe out of the second story window, removed the records, and carried the effects of the county to Forest City.

"New Hampton then began to fight through the courts. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Judge Bailey, and a posse went to his house and arrested him. There was a good deal of excitement and considerable delay, the judge and his family making various pretexts to that end, until up came a man with what purported to be writ of habeas corpus, and took the prisoner away from his captors. This writ purported to have been issued from the office of the clerk of the court, but it is claimed, was in reality issued by the deputy clerk. Bailey was released, but in the interval during which he was held for consultation, a general fight ensued. The judge found it convenient to disappear, and for a time the conflict waged warm and the fighting dangerous. This was in front of the judge's house, and there were probably seventy-five persons present. Several were hurt, Daniel Shook perhaps the most severely. He was injured, I think, in the side, and marked in the face, which mark he will carry to his dying day."

It is unnecessary to add that the invaders came away without their intended prisoner. Many of them were arrested and taken to Williamstown, and thence to Nashua, where a show of prosecu-

tion was made, but nothing resulted therefrom other than their ultimate discharge. It was while going home from the scenes of intestine strife that Lawyer Babcock, of Bradford, lost his horse, the animal being drowned in a slough of the Wapsie. It is but fair to state that the gentleman from whom the above information was obtained, was a staunch supporter of New Hampton's claim. To mention the "Battle of Bailey's Lane" at this day, only creates a smile of retrospective amusement, although, it is easy to imagine, the affair was sufficiently serious at the time.

#### COUNTY SEAT CONTEST 1880.

Almost of a necessity a county seat controversy, in its progress provoked much bitterness and wrangling, so active and zealously does partizanship become, so prone is man to magnify or belittle facts on either side, that it becomes doubly hard for the historian to calmly and dispassionately sum up the various evidence, and try and place clearly before the reader the true inwardness of the matter, but we will endeavor to make as plain a statement of the facts as they occurred.

The old court house, located at New Hampton, took fire and burned to ashes on the evening of March 26th, 1880. The cause of the fire has been ascribed to incendiarism, but this has never been fully proven. However on the 31st, of the same month the New Hampton Tribune in an editorial suggested that now as the old land mark had gone up in flames that the county should build a substantial court house that would be an honor the county. On the same day, viz: March 31st, 1880, the following paper was circulated and sign by good and substantial citizens of Nashua and Bradford township, to-wit:

To the Honorable board of supervisors of Chickasaw county,  
Iow:

We the undersigned residents and tax-payers of said Chickasaw county, respectfully petition you that you take necessary steps to build a court house, upon the court house square, New Hampton, as soon as the same can legally be done. Dated March 31st, 1880.

A. G. Lawrence,  
C. A. Greely,

M. Stewart, Jr.,  
S. E. Preston,

A. A. Tumer,	J. W. Kellogg,
Amos Case,	J. P. Parrish,
Jos. F. Grawe,	B. A. Billings,
Wm. B. Perrin,	Hazlett and Sons,
F. Hollenbeck,	and 125 others.

However many of the citizens of Nashua and vicinity retrograded from the above petition on the question on the agitation of many people in the balance of the county, who suggested the location of the county seat at Nashua, and the building of the court house at that place.

On the 3d day of April, at a meeting held in the town of Lawler a resolution was passed protesting against appropriation of any money by the county to build a court house until the town where it was built should make liberal appropriation therefor.

This resolution seemed to cast a firebrand in to the hitherto peaceful question, and to set the county in a blaze and every man seemed to take some part, for one side or the other.

However, the citizens, of New Hampton, met the question, by appointing A. E. Bigelow, H. M. Mixer and Jno. Foley, as trustees to raise and hold a fund, of \$5,000, to be given to the county of Chickasaw, or as much of it as was needed to complete the court house building, provided, the county appropriated the sum of \$5,000 in addition.

To this liberal offer it was raised in objection, that the subscribers were only bound for a small sum in reality, as but little more than the \$5,000 of the county would be needed to build the court house, according to plans adopted by the board of supervisors. This led to much dispute and mangling. The citizens of Nashua, agreed on their part, that, if the county seat was located in that place, they would erect a building suitable for the purpose, at a cost of \$25,000, which the county might occupy as a court house, at a nominal rent of \$1.00 per annum, but which building they would not donate to the county.

Finally at the September meeting of the board of supervisors, the question of locating the county seat was taken up, and a petition signed by a large number of the voters of the county, was presented, asking the honorable board to relocate the same at Nashua,

in the township of Bradford. Also a remonstrance, signed by a larger number of votes of said county, was presented remonstrating against the board relocating the county seat at Nashua, and we find the following upon the records of the board.

"The question of the relocation of the county seat was taken up by the board, and the following action taken by them:"

We, the board of supervisors of Chickasaw county, Iowa, at the suggestion, and by the expressed consent of the petitioners, by their attorney, without a close investigation of either the petition or remonstrance, but taking the names as they appear upon the face of said petition and remonstrance, and being satisfied that the names upon the remonstrance exceed the names upon the petition, therefore the prayer of the petitioners is hereby declared, not granted."

This ended the matter and the county seat still remaining at New Hampton, the building of the court house was proceeded with; for account of which we refer to chapter on county buildings.



## CHAPTER V.

---

THE PRESS; THE PRINTER; JOURNALISM IN CHICKASAW COUNTY  
IN EARLY DAYS—RAILROADS; THEIR HISTORY AND EXTENT.

---

The inception of journalism dates from remote ages. The institution now known as the newspaper was preceded nearly a thousand years by manuscript publications, in which the accounts of public occurrences in Rome were made known to the public, these were known by the name of "Acta Diurna;" but their issues, in time of scarcity of news, was irregular, the editor either engaging in some other calling or indulging in the sports of the day.

But little progress was made from this until 1622, the date of the first publication worthy of the name of newspaper. Prior to that time, the mental appetite of modern Europe had subsisted upon periodical manuscript literature. In England, the written news-letter, furnished only at fabulous prices, was, for a long time, in vogue. The news pamphlet was the nearest approach to the newspaper that had obtained up to 1622; when, as has been said, the first regular series of newspapers was born. It was about that time that the "Weekly News from Italie and Germanie" made its salutatory to the London public. It was printed upon a mechanical contrivance—perfected by one Nathaniel Butler, who is the

progenitor of the newspaper proper. The first attempt at the publication of parliamentary reports was made in 1641, when the parties of the realm first occupied a place in the paper. The first advertisement was inserted in 1648, and was in verse form, and tradition truly says that it paid then as now.

The first daily morning newspaper was the "London Courant," published in 1709 and consisted of only one page or two columns, each five paragraphs long; and was made up from translations from foreign journals. Fifty years had not elapsed before there was over seven million papers sold in England annually.

The revolutions in journalism during the present century have been of so stupendous a type as to be almost beyond comprehension were we not brought face to face with the fact day by day. Nor has the press failed to increase in power and usefulness. It is an instrument calculated to elevate and enlighten the people, as well as aid in the enforcement of the laws and the perpetuation of good government. It is its mission to make wrong doing odious, by airing the misdeeds of those guilty of crimes against law and society; and to point the admiring finger at the good and pure deeds of men of nobility of soul, who are worthy of respectful homage.

And the printer, whose ceaseless placing of type on type makes possible these labors of the brain of men; the printer who garners up the thoughts and actions of men and spread them upon the snow white page and send them to your very door, is he not worthy a place in the history of our time.

To use the beautiful words of that gifted journalist, Benj. F. Taylor, when speaking of the printer:

"The printer is the adjutant of thought, and this explains the mystery of the wonderful word—that can kindle a hope as no song can—that can warm the heart as no hope—that word 'we,' with a hand in hand warmth in it, for the author and printer are engineers together. Engineers, indeed! when the little Corsican bombarded Cadiz at the distance of five miles, it was deemed the very triumph of engineering. But what is that range to this, whereby they bombard the age yet to come.

"There at the case he stands and marshals into line the forces armed for truth, clothed in immortality and English. And what can be nobler than the equipment of a thought in sterling Saxon—

Saxon with the ring of spear and shield in it, and that commissioning it, when we are dead, to move gradually on to the —'latest syllable of recorded time'. This is to win a victory from death, for this has no death in it.

"The printer is called a laborer, and the office he performs, toil. Oh, it is not work, but a sublime rite that he is performing, when he thus sights, the engine that is to fling a worded truth in grander curve than missile e'er before described—flung it into the bosom of an age yet unborn.

"He throws off his coat indeed! we but wonder, the rather, that he does not put the shoes from off his feet, for the place whereon he stands is holy ground.

"A little song was uttered somewhere, long ago—it wandered through the twilight feebler than a star—it died upon the ear. But the printer caught it up where it was lying there in the silence like a wounded bird, and equips it anew with wings, and he sends it forth from the ark that had preserved it, and it flew forth into the future, with the olive branch of peace, and round the world with melody, like the dawning of a spring morning.

"How the types have built up the broken arches in the bridge of time! How they render the brave utterances beyond the Pilgrims audible and eloquent—hardly feeling the free spirit, but moving not a word, not a syllable lost in the whirl of the world—moving in connected paragraph and period down the lengthening line of years."

The first newspaper published in the county, was the Chickasaw County Republican, which made its appearance at Jacksonville in May, 1857, under the proprietorship of Isaac Watson, who brought the material from Missouri. Watson was subsequently killed by the rebels in Missouri during the war. Following the Republican very closely, in the same month, and during the succeeding week—the Cedar Valley News was issued at Bradford, with A. J. Felt as editor. Felt sold to a Mr. Bushnell, and he to D. A. Babcock, who represented a stock company. The stock company sold to G. M. Reynolds, who, in connection with Babcock, ran the paper for some time. The News finally succumbed to adverse circumstances, and after a flickering existence, its "light went out." It was neutral in politics, and, says our informant, "was published for a republican constituency by a democratic editor."

The Jacksonville newspaper enterprise was republican in politics, and it, too, fell into the hands of a stock company, which, as



in the case of the Cedar Valley News, also proved to be the precursor of death. We have before us as we write, the paper relating to the organizing of the stock company, purchase of the paper etc., which we herewith present in full:

"In pursuance of a call of individuals that have proposed taking shares and forming a joint stock association for the purpose of purchasing the press, fixtures, furniture and books of the Chickasaw County Republican, under the name of the Chickasaw County Republican Association, a meeting was held at Jacksonville on the 7th day of November, 1857, and on motion William Little was called to the chair and J. H. Powers appointed secretary. On motion the articles that had been circulated for the purpose of eliciting stock were presented, the blanks filled, and were unanimously adopted as follows:

"The stock of the association shall consist of shares of ten dollars each, and each share shall be entitled to one vote. The stock shall be paid in installments as follows, to wit: one-half dollar down, two dollars in four months, and the remainder in six months.

"The stockholders shall at the annual meeting on the second Wednesday of November, elect by ballot a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and an executive and such other committees as they shall see fit, whose duties shall be as prescribed by the by-laws of the association.

"The treasurer shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give bonds in the sum of two thousand dollars, said bonds to be approved by the president and filed with the secretary.

"The stock holders shall have power to make by-laws not inconsistent with these articles.

"No share shall be entitled to a vote after an installment becomes due, until paid.

"One-half of the shares taken, represented by at least five stockholders, shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business.

"These articles may be amended at any annual meeting by a majority of shares represented, by giving two months' notice prior to said meeting."

These articles were signed as follows: D. A. Babcock, 3 shares, \$30; R. C. Horton, 3 shares, \$30; G. W. Howard, 3 shares, \$30; B. E. DePuy, 2 shares, \$20; A. W. Billings, 3 shares, \$30; M. B. Taylor, 1 share \$10; Thomas Poolr & Co., 5 shares, \$50; Luthan Morgan, 1 share, \$10; L. L. Morse, 3 shares, \$30; W. W. Foster, 1 share, \$10; A. E. Bigelow, 1 share, \$10."

The proceedings of the meeting were continued as follows:

"On motion they proceeded to ballot for officers, which resulted as follows: President Hazard Green; vice-president, D. A. Babcock; secretary, J. H. Powers; treasurer, J. H. Dickens; executive committee, G. W. Howard, F. D. Bosworth, J. Cole; committee on by-laws, W. E. Beach, J. H. Dickens, J. Cole, J. H. Powers, G. W. Howard."

Shares were limited to two hundred at ten dollars each, and the installments were made payable as follows: five dollars down, two dollars in three months and three dollars in six months. The corporation began its existence on the 14th day of November, 1857, and was to continue ten years, subject, however, to dissolution by a two-thirds vote of all the shares taken. Private property was exempt from the incorporate debts, and the indebtedness of the association was never to exceed three hundred dollars at any one time.

Isaac Watson's assignment of the property is as follows: "For the consideration of the sum of six hundred dollars in hand paid, I hereby assign and sell to the Chickasaw County Republican Association, all the material and fixtures of the office of the Chickasaw County Republican; also the stock and books on hand, the job type now at the river, and all the stock now on hand connected with the office; and authorize the association to appropriate the same to the use of the association."

ISAAC WATSON.

The following is also from the records kept by the association:

NAMES.	NO. SHARES.	AMOUNT.
Cole .....	20	\$200 Receipted
H. Green .....	15	150 "
W. E. Beach .....	1	10 "
A. Vaughn.....	2	20 "
William Little.....	5	50 "
J. H. Powers .....	1	10 "
J. P. North.....	3	30 "
F. Coover.....	2	20 "
H. H. Brakeman.....	6	60 "
C. Fitch.....	1	10
E. R. Gillett.....	1	10
D. A. Babcock.....	1	10 Receipted
J. H. Powers (for Gurley)	1	10 "

"The amount of shares set against the names above will call for shares in the Chickasaw County Republican Association, on presenting the receipt of Isaac Watson.

J. H. POWERS,

"Sec. of C. C. R. A."

Recd. on the above the amount set opposite each name in full, in payment on account of the Chickasaw County Republican office, with the exception of A. Vaughn, Charley Fitch and E. R. Gillett, and \$40 on H. H. Brakeman.

"Jacksonville, December 18th, 1857.

"ISAAC WATSON."

Certificates of stock appear to have been issued as follows:

NAMES.	NOS.	NO OF SHARES.
F. D. Bosworth.....	1 .....	1
D. A. Babcock.....	2 .....	1
J. H. Powers.....	3 .....	1
W. E. Beach.....	4 .....	1
J. Cole.....	5 to 25 .....	20
H. H. Brakeman.....	25 to 31 .....	6
G. W. Howard.....	31 .....	1
J. P. North.....	33 to 36 .....	3
Little & Wood.....	36 to 41 .....	5
A. Vaughn.....	41 to 42 .....	2
Coover.....	43 to 44 .....	2

The certificates of stock were in form as follows, being a copy of an original one now before us:

No. 5.	CERTIFICATE OF STOCK,	\$10.
OF THE		
CHICKASAW COUNTY REPUBLICAN ASSOCIATION.		
TEN DOLLARS.		
Issued to.....	J. COLE.	
December 25th, A. D., 1857.		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Chickasaw County  Republican Association  Seal. </div>		
J. H. POWERS, Sec.	H. GREEN, Pres.	

After a brief and unsatisfactory existence the Chickasaw County Republican Association, which had been started with such careful preparation, sold the Republican to L. J. Young, who moved the material to New Hampton and with it began the publication of the New Hampton Courier, in connection with W. E. Beach. In payment for the material Young executed the following instrument:

"Be it remembered that I, L. J. Young, for a valuable consideration in hand paid by J. H. Powers, as agent of the Chickasaw County Republican association, do hereby sell and deliver unto the said powers as the said agent, one yoke of white-faced oxen, now used by me, and one spotted cow; and make and deliver unto the Chickasaw County Republican association a good and sufficient warrantee deed of lot number three in block eighteen in the village of Chickasaw, Chickasaw county, Iowa, or at their request to any other person that they may direct instead thereof; and to give over to him the following donations, to-wit:

"Gardner & Hamlin, \$20; D. Edwards, one lot in New Hampton; H. Gurley, \$10; S. Cotant, \$10; D. A. Jackson, \$10; E. T. Runion, \$10; Powers, balance due him on note holden by H. Gurley; said donation to be collected by the said agent.

"Witness my hand and seal this 11th day of November, A. D., 1859.  
L. J. YOUNG."

The New Hampton Courier made its first appearance on the 16th day of January, 1860, as a six column folio, Beach & Young editors and proprietors. The first number was evidently put together under difficulties, not the least of which was the scarcity of proper type. On the fourth page the proceedings of congress are set in double column measure, in great primer type, but the proceedings not "filling out" the double column, capitals of the German text alphabet are inserted to fill the vacancy. An item from the Charles City Intelligencer, predicting the early demise of the new venture, is quoted in this number, with appropriate comments to the effect that the Courier has come to stay, etc., an assertion which has proven more than usually correct as regards such enterprises, the Courier being at this writing in its twenty-third year, and so far from showing signs of decay as to evince, on the contrary, increased vigor, ability and prosperity with its increasing years.

Of the home advertisers in this first issue of the Courier, we note

the following, doing business at that time in New Hampton, except where otherwise stated: Waite & Albertson, dry goods and groceries; A. & N. Vaughn, general merchandise, Jacksonville; H. Green, tavern stand, Jacksonville; William Beebe, blacksmith, "clocks and watches cleaned, guns and gun-locks repaired," Jacksonville; H. Gurley, general merchandise; Cotant & McCulloch, general merchandise; J. H. Powers, counselor at law; W. E. Beach, notary public; Caleb Arnold, justice of the peace.

W. E. Beach subsequently sold his interest to G. M. Reynolds, who, after a time, purchased Young's interest also. Mr. Reynolds continued to publish the Courier until his death in 1878, on June 22d, of which year the paper passed into the hands of W. R. Edwards and J. R. Carleton, who continued its publication until Oct. 11, 1882, when Mr. Edwards sold his interest to C. F. Geer. The Courier is now published by Carleton & Geer, editors and proprietors, is an eight-column folio, republican in politics, and in every way creditable to its owners and the county of Chickasaw.

#### RAILROADS.

In the days when the feet of the pioneer first pressed the prairie sod of Chickasaw county, no guiding road had they on which they could travel to reach their destination. A pocket compass, the North star, the course of the streams, or often blind chance were their only guide. Before their coming, to select their lands and build their cabins, the prairie grass and flowers had never known the disturbing feet of the white man. Few railroads were there in any parts of the United States, and in this country they lay as yet in the bosom of the unborn years. The hardy pioneer seeking out a new home, came by wagon, on horseback; yea, often on foot; the ferries across the streams were rude enough when there were any; but often the immigrant was compelled to ford the creeks or raft himself over the rivers. Sometimes, wagons were transported across the river in small Indian canoes, that were lashed together at a width to accommodate the width of the wagons; the wheels of one side of the wagon being placed in one canoe, and the wheels of the other side in the other canoe and then "paddled" across. The horses and oxen being swam by the side of the canoes, and another voyage being made to "set over" the family of the immigrant who shared his toil and privation.

As the country settled up, the needs of the pioneers began to in-

crease, stores and trading places to spring up, goods and merchandise were hauled by wagons from McGregor and Dubuque, the nearest landing places on the Mississippi. In those days, and until the railroads crossed the Mississippi river—and followed the settlements into the interior, freighting and staging was a prosperous business, and laid the foundation for fortunes to the men who engaged in it. The old four-horse stage are still remembered with much pleasure, as being the joy of their early days, when the farmer stopped the horse in the furrow, the mechanic dropped his tools, and the merchant came from behind his counter, all to see the stage go by. What a hero—a man to be envied—was the driver. The young man's mind could conceive no higher ambition than to drive a four-in-hand stage. And in fact, it made many of the fathers and men in middle-life feel wonderfully proud, when, for the first time, they took a seat in one of those old coaches to be whirled back to the east, from which he had so laborously toiled with plodding oxen but a few years ago.

In 1856, the people of Chickasaw first began to agitate the subject of railroads. The McGregor, St. Peters and Mississippi railroad company being then in process of formation with headquarters at Decorah and McGregor, a special election was held in Chickasaw county on the question as to whether the county should subscribe to the stock of said company to induce them to run their line through the county. The election was held on October 15th, 1856, and the whole number of votes cast were 536, of these 352 voted for the subscription for the stock and 176 against it, with 8 ballots rejected on account of being incorrectly worded.

On October 6th, 1857, a vote was taken in the county as to whether the county should aid in the construction of the Cedar Valley branch of the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska, and resulted in 309 votes being cast in favor of so doing and 216 against it. But the McGregor, St. Peter and Mississippi railroad having collapsed about 1860, the county held another election and recinded all votes cast in aid of both the above roads, by very large majorities.

The first company who broke ground within the limits of the county, was the Cedar Valley and Minnesota, who during the summer of 1863 graded the road and laid the rails through the southwestern part of Bradford township. The station at Nashua was erected in July of that year. Immediately on the completion of the road, it was leased to the Illinois Central railroad, who furnished the

necessary rolling stock to transact the business and who operate the road now under the name of the Cedar Falls and Minnesota branch of the Illinois Central. There are, however, but seven miles and a small fraction lying within this county.

On the 9th day of September, 1868, however, ground was broken at Calmar, Winnesheik county, by the McGregor and Sioux City railroad, and in the early summer of 1869 had entered the boundaries of Chickasaw county. This road traverses the entire breadth of Chickasaw county, crossing the townships of Stapleton, New Hampton, Dayton, Chickasaw and a small fraction of Utica, and having stations at Lawler, New Hampton, Chickasaw and Bassett. It is now under the control of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, and designated the Iowa and Dakota division.

Several attempts have been made to induce the building of other roads, notably those running north and south, to secure additional facilities and produce competition, and thereby cheapen freight, but at present nothing has come of it, although there seems to be a prospect, in the future, for at least one to be completed.



## CHAPTER VI.

---

EDUCATION.—EARLY SCHOOL LAWS, TAX RATES, AND REPORTS; SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS; PRESENT STATUS; REPORTS OF SCHOOLS; REPORT OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT; AND TEACHERS, ETC.

---

### EDUCATIONAL.

The United States, although the youngest in the bright brotherhood of nations may in truth be said to be the parent of the public school. Two hundred years ago, the stern and rigid Puritan, on the bleak and rocks shores of New England, originated the district school for the inculcation of ideas, to the youthfull mind, and it exists to this day in that far away portion of our great republic. Our forefathers, in the mighty emgrations which they made toward the setting sun, brought with them the germs of the precious seed, and where ever they settled planted it in a fruitful soil. Some came to our own noble state, and though the seed was in small quantity, verily the harvest is abundant. It can now without any fear of contradiction, be said, that Iowa possesses the best school system in the



world; and Chickasaw county is by no means, in the rear of the other counties of the state, in this respect. Let the following exhibit of the use of the educational system vouch for the truth of this.

The first school opened in the county, was one at the old village of Bradford in the year 1852, and from this small beginning, in thirty years it has grown into a mighty tree, whose outreaching branches overshadow every part of it. The first schools were apparently independent movements brought about by the communities in which they were planted for we find no records of any thing approaching to concerted action or system until 1855, from that period until 1858, there are no records at all owing partially to the loose manner, in which all the early papers were kept. After that date there seems to be more effort to keep them in proper form, and from them we collate the following:

In 1858 the secretaries of the several school districts, returned the following tax rates for school purposes: New Hampton township, seven mills; Richland township, five mills; North Washington, one mill; Bradford, one mill; Dayton, five mills; Jackson- (or Jaxonville, as here spelled,) five mills.

September 12th, 1859, the permanent school fund, and the school tax collected in Chickasaw county were apportioned as follows:

TOWNSHIP.	PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.	CO. TAX COLLECTED.
Jacksonville.....	\$ 62 12	\$ 39 15
Utica.....	66 86	42 11
Washington.....	31 32	19 44
Deerfield.....	56 38	35 53
Chickasaw .....	104 40	65 80
Dayton.....	32 88	20 92
New Hampton.....	49 59	31 26
Stapleton .....	33 41	21 06
Fredricksburg.....	51 68	32 57
Dresden .....	34 97	22 04
Richland.....	53 77	33 89
Bradford.....	143 03	90 15
Totals .....	\$720 41	\$453 92

October 3d, 1859, J. C. Strong, county superintendent of Chickasaw county schools, filed the following abstract of the number of

youths, between the ages of five and twenty-one years, residing in each township and school district:

TOWNSHIP.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTALS.
Bradford .....	143	144	287
Chickasaw .....	125	90	215
Dayton.....	22	23	45
Deerfield.....	51	60	111
Dresden.....	25	43	68
Fredericksburg.....	47	32	79
Jacksonville, .....	62	56	118
New Hampton.....	71	57	128
Richland, .....	33	57	90
Stapleton .....	35	34	69
Utica.....	73	73	146
Washington.....	33	30	63
Total.....	720	699	1,419

Apportionment of school moneys April, 1860:

TOWNSHIPS.	PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.	CO. TAX.
Bradford.....	\$ 170 38	\$ 163 14
Chickasaw.....	127 55	122 21
Dayton'.....	26 70	25 58
Deerfield.....	65 87	63 10
Dresden.....	40 35	38 65
Fredericksburg.....	46 88	44 90
Jacksonville.....	70 03	67 07
New Hampton.....	76 00	72 75
Richland .....	53 40	51 15
Stapleton .....	40 94	39 22
Utica.....	86 64	82 99
Washington.....	37 39	35 81
Totals .....	\$842 13	\$806 57

Report of G. J. Tisdale, county superintendent, for 1860:

TOWNSHIPS.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Bradford.....	144	149	293
Richland .....	31	53	84
Dresden.....	35	40	75
Fredericksburg.....	52	50	102
Stapleton .....	33	37	70

New Hampton.....	81	66	147
Dayton.....	27	25	52
Chickasaw.....	118	101	219
Deerfield.....	51	54	105
Washington.....	37	35	72
Jacksonville.....	51	60	111
Utica.....	82	78	161

Totals .....	743	748	1,491
--------------	-----	-----	-------

## PUPILS 1880.

TOWNSHIPS.	MALES.	FEMALES.	No. enrolled in each Twp.	Average at- tendance.	Cost tuition per pupil.
	No. between 5 and 21 years.				
Bradford .....	213	233	299	153	1.60
Chickasaw.....	169	121	240	122	1.85
Deerfield .....	224	191	286	182	1.60
Jacksonville .....	231	239	282	177	1.64
Utica.....	254	240	443	177	1.24
Dayton .....	138	130	198	99	2.33
Dresden .....	126	138	252	115	1.67
Fredricksburg .....	148	124	236	128	1.69
New Hampton.....	112	118	203	95	2.08
Richland .....	145	169	237	122	1.77
Stapleton.....	150	136	221	124	1.49
Washington.....	259	224	298	169	1.33
IND. DISTRICTS.					
Chickasaw.....	47	49	78	33½	.79
Fredricksburg .....	36	38	86	62	.95
Ionia.....	54	72	82	62	.95
Lawler .....	145	125	166	116	1.04
Nashua.....	194	188	354	214	1.03
New Hampton.....	195	228	311	178	3.23

The earliest records in the office of the county superintendent of schools begin on the 20th of October, 1862, on which date it appears of entry that the board of supervisors appointed Thomas N. Skinner, superintendent in the place of J. A. Sawin. Skinner

entered upon the discharge of his duties the same day, and went to Bradford to attend a teachers' institute. Skinner's last entry is of date January 6th, 1864, and the first entry by his successor, F. D. Bosworth, appears on the blank day of January, 1864.

Records of examinations for teachers' certificates comprise the greater portion of Skinner's entries, together with itemized accounts of his expenses and sums due for official services. The entries show, however, a very fair degree of energy on his part and quite a number of visitations upon the schools of the county. In the light of latter-day blank forms and other facilities for making out reports, etc., these early records appear somewhat primitive, but none the less evince the progressive spirit which has paved the way to the present orderly system.

The first entry of an official visit by superintendent Skinner is given below precisely as it appears in the records, as a specimen report of the more or less simelar memoranda which follows:

June 2, 1863, journalized from memorandum	Stapleton school district, May 20, 1863. Visited school in sub-district No. 2 in Stapleton. School taught by Miss Rose Doud. School room neat and in order. Vase of flowers.
Teacher	
Miss Rose Doud, wages \$12 per month.	Pupils enrolled..... 8
	Pupils 2 in first grade..... 2
	Pupils 2 in 3 grade..... 2
	Pupils 4 in 4 grade..... 4
Faulty ortho- graphy.	8
	Wages \$12 per month. A first-class school for a small one. Rented room for school."

Mr. Skinner is not always so complimentary in his reports, however; "faulty in orthography" is a comment which frequently appears, and there are other criticisms set forth with a charming degree of frankness unusual in our day of apologetic literature. Mr. S. evidently believed in calling a spade a spade. One teacher is "not well qualified;" in one school the room contained "no flowers or anything to make it pleasant; another is "too full a school for the house;" one school house is in "common order," and the school under "medium government." Then there are "a poor teacher, not fitted for the school;" a school that is "not neat;" a teacher that "hasn't energy enough for teaching successfully,"

and a teacher who "needs more education." Indeed, according to Mr. Skinner, there is quite a number of the latter class. We learn also of a "good teacher" who is "conceited" and "does not stimulate to higher standards;" a "national" teacher; a "nervous" teacher; a "middling" school, and are informed that "every school in the county is deficient in books"—better supplied, however, than the superintendent had anticipated."

The wages, it will be observed, were generally less than one-half the wages paid at the present time, twelve dollars per month being the usual sum, and fifteen dollars the highest paid save in the Bradford schools, where the principal, A. M. Mott, received forty-five dollars and his assistant, Miss Louisa Robinson, twenty dollars per month.

According to a resolution of the board of supervisors of the county, adopted at the June term 1863, the county superintendent was directed to visit and grade the various schools of the county agreeably to the instructions of the secretary of the state board of education, and that the schools be so graded that the pupils may advance in any one study when found to be so qualified.

#### SCHOOL SYSTEM A NUSIANCE.

At the same term of the board of county solons it was: "Resolved, That the board of supervisors of Chickasaw county, Iowa, deem after long experience and mature reflection, the present school of the state of Iowa a nusiance—a conglomerate of misunderstandings and inconsistencies, having a direct tendency to squander the school fund and not benefiting the youth of our state but very little; and that we would recommend and use our influence to have the present school law remodeled, and each sub-district made a body corporate, thereby allowing each sub-district of the townships to have the exclusive control and management of their own school matters, and that the county superintendent be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the secretary of the board of education."

The first teachers institute recorded convened October 3d, 1864. The principal portion of the entry is as follows:

"Agreeable to notice, teachers met at New Hampton to open an institute. Institute opened at 2 P. M., and organized by selecting F. D. Bosworth, chairman, and D. F. Callender, secretary. J. L. Enos had been selected as lecturer, and to conduct the exercises

during the session of the institute. The order of exercises was then read, and the meeting adjourned."

Upon reassembly on the following day, the meeting was conducted in accordance with the programme read on the preceeding day, as was also the case on the 5th, 6th, and 7th, and on the 8th resolutions were adopted and officers selected for the ensuing year. The session closed at 12 m. on the 8th.

J. C. Johnson succeeded Mr. Bosworth in 1866, and in 1870 W. P. Bennett appears as successor to Johnson. In October of the latter year the name of Jos. F. Grawe appears as succeeding Mr. Bennett. And at the election of October 11th, 1870, Jos. F. Grawe was reelected to fill the same office by almost the unanimous voice of the people, there being but three votes cast against him. The same gentleman seemed to be as great a favorite at the election of October 10th, 1871, and continued to hold the office at the bidding of the great majority of his fellow citizens, until January 4th, 1875, and O. A. Truman was appointed, by the board of supervisors, to fill the vacancy; which he filled until superceded by Major W. D. Collins, who was elected October 12th, 1875. He was succeeded by H. A. Simons who was elected October 18th, 1879, and was replaced by J. A. Lapham the present incumbent whose election occurred on the 11th day of October, 1881, his opponent being a very popular man, Oscar A. McFarland now principal of the Lawler school:

#### COMPENSATION OF TEACHERS OF COUNTY, 1880-81.

TOWNSHIP.	No. Employed.		Compensation per Mo.	
	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.
Bradford.....	7	16	\$ 23 77	\$ 23 47
Chickasaw.....	5	14	27 34	19 05
Deerfield.....	2	23	23 75	24 46
Jacksonville.....	4	20	21 75	20 14
Utica.....	7	14	22 36	18 85
Dayton.....	4	11	29 50	20 60
Dresden.....	3	10	22 33	23 27
Fredericksburg.....	6	9	26 66	19 46
New Hampton.....	7	10	24 54	20 19
Richland.....	5	8	28 25	21 70
Stapleton.....	4	5	22 15	19 90
Washington.....	3	8	24 25	24 74

## IND. DISTRICTS.

Chickasaw.....	2	2	27 50	25 00
Fredricksburg .....	0	4		28 50
Ionia .....	1	1	35 00	25 66
Lawler .....	1	2	53 33	32 50
Nashua .....	1	4	80 00	35 00
New Hampton.....	2	7	50 00	25 63

The number and value of school houses according to the report of county superintendent for 1881.

Number School House.				Value of
TOWNSHIP.	FRAME.	BRICK.	STONE.	APPARATUS.
Bradfoad.....	11	..	..	\$ 6 600
Chickasaw .....	8	..	..	2 200
Deerfield.....	10	..	..	2 825
Jacksonville.....	6	..	..	1 300
Utica.....	10	..	..	3 150
Dayton .....	7	..	..	2 450
Dresden .....	8	..	..	3 210
Fredericksburg.	9	..	..	4 475
New Hampton.	8	..	..	2 150
Richland.....	6	..	..	3 300
Stapleton.....	7	..	..	2 450
Washington .....	7	..	..	2 275
IND. DIST'S.				
Chickasaw .....	1	..	1	2 100
Fredericksburg.	1	..	..	700
Ionia.....	1	..	..	2 000
Lawler .....	1	..	..	4 000
Nashua.....	..	..	..	12 000
New Hampton..	..	..	..	700

In 1882, according to the reports, as filed with the county auditor, it is found that there are in the county 5,257 children, between the ages of five and twenty-one years, divided among the several townships as follows:

TOWNSHIP.	NO. OF MALES.	NO. OF FEMALES.
Bradford .....	367	372
Chickasaw.....	233	293
Deerfield .....	180	163
Jacksonville.....	210	234

Utica.....	226	196
Fredericksburg.....	180	156
Stapleton.....	259	275
New Hampton.....	336	395
Dayton.....	128	116
Dresden.....	106	110
Richland.....	139	123
Washington.....	250	210
<hr/>		<hr/>
Total.....	2614	2643
	2643	
<hr/>		

Grand total.....5257

Report of number of schools in each sub-district for the years,  
1880 and 1881:

TOWNSHIP.	1880.		1881.	
	NO. SUB-DIST.	NO. ROOM.	NO. SUB-DIST.	NO ROOM.
Bradford.....	10	12	10	11
Chickasaw.....	8	8	8	8
Deerfield.....	12	11	12	11
Jacksonville.....	11	12	11	12
Utica.....	10	10	10	10
Dayton.....	7	7	7	7
Dresden.....	8	8	8	8
Fredericksburg.....	9	9	9	9
New Hampton.....	8	8	8	8
Richland.....	6	6	6	6
Stapleton.....	7	7	7	7
Washington.....	6	8	8	8
IND. DISTRICTS.				
Chickasaw.....	1	2	1	2
Ionia.....	1	2	1	2
Lawler.....	1	3	1	3
Nashua.....	1	5	1	6
New Hampton.....	1	5	1	5
Fredericksburg.....	1	2	1	2
Bradford high school. ..	..	..	1	1
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	108	125	111	126



The following is condensed from a report of J. A. Lapham, county superintendent, for 1882.

There are at present one hundred and twenty-nine teachers employed in the public schools of Chickasaw county. There are one hundred and five county school houses, leaving twenty four teachers employed in the towns and villages. Of these New Hampton has eight, Nashua seven, Lawler Ionia, Chickasaw and Fredricksburg two teachers each. Bradford township sustains a high school. Deerfield and Jacksonville each hired another teacher in the summer season, making a total requisite of one hundred thirty-one teachers to supply our public schools.

Of this corps of teachers two (Profs Simons and Felker) hold professional certificates. Thirty-eight hold firstclass certificates. Eighteen of these are employed in the towns and villages and twenty are in the country schools. Sixty-five have second-class certificates and twenty-seven have third-class certificates.

The number of scholars in the county between the ages of five and twenty-one, as indicated by secretaries' reports, is 4999. 2564 are males, 2435 are females. This statement may vary from the facts somewhat, as in a number of instances the secretaries wrote that they had failed to ascertain the exact number in their respective districts. I regret that this should be true. A little effort on the part of each officer will give a correct report. Further information from the same source shows the average attendance to be 2325, or about forty-six per cent of the number of school age. Of course many of school age do not attend at all, so that the average daily attendance compared with the enrollment is much larger. It, however in some instances falls below fifty per cent.

The average cost per month for each pupil is about \$1.68. This refers to the amount paid teachers. Contingent expenses raise it to more than two dollars per scholar. In one district the amount per scholar per month was \$4.57; in another \$4.50. In a number of instances it amounted to over three dollars.

Not unfrequently this record is made where there are enough children in the distict for a good school if they would (or could) attend.

When we remember that our public schools cost us between

\$8,000 and \$10,000 yearly. in addition to the amount permanently invested in school property, it is a question of deep interest whether they are giving us the results we have a right to expect.

In instances not a few, a good teacher is devoting her time to five or six pupils while there are eight, ten, or fifteen more in the neighborhood who ought to be in school.

Of our teachers, about forty are males and ninety are females. Cases of trouble in school have been very rare indeed within the last year. In many of the country schools ladies are doing as efficient work as the men (in winter as well as in summer).

\* \* \* \* \*

We have at present many good, true teachers in the county. On them do we depend largely for the successful issue of the graded system.

The subject of wages has received some attention the last year. A willingness to pay good teachers for their labor is more manifest. In the district townships Utica, Jacksonville and Deerfield have taken the lead, Utica pays \$24, \$27 and \$30, according to grade of certificate. Jacksonville is but \$3 behind on first-class certificates and \$2 on the others

Deerfield pays thirty dollars to most of her teachers indiscriminately. We know of three teachers in independent districts (country schools) who receive thirty-five dollars per month. A few received thirty-two dollars, and many thirty dollars. We respectfully suggest that it would be well to grade the wages in all the districts in the county. Where this is done a manifest injustice is frequently worked.

\* \* \* \* \*

I am pleased to note that our first class teachers are in stronger demand. They are found to be far cheaper even when paid five to ten dollars more per month.

There have been three new school houses built within the last year. One in Jacksonville, one in New Hampton, and one at North Washington. Better houses are being built.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our annual institute had an enrollment of one hundred and

three. Young men find it almost impossible to attend in the summer season. They furnish part of the money to sustain the institute, and (by their request) I think an arrangement for a session of one week in March for those who cannot attend next summer, and for young aspirants who will enter the work for the first time next spring. In many cases they have had no preparation for teaching whatever.

I have endeavored in this annual report to state the condition and prospects of our public schools as nearly as possible.



## CHAPTER VII.

### CENSUS AT VARIOUS DATES; ABSTRACT OF ASSESSMENT ROLLS; VALUE OF PROPERTY IN COUNTY, ETC.

The census returns of the assessors, as made at a special term of the county court, July 21st, 1856, were as follows:

Bradford .....	589
Chickasaw.....	508
Deerfield.....	325
Obispo.....	488
Richland.....	111
Yankee.....	522

---

Total enumeration of Chickasaw county..... 2 543

The returns for 1857 were:

Deerfield .....	263
North Washington.....	179
Obispo (part).....	333
Stapleton .....	225
Obispo (part).....	335

New Hampton.....	256
Dayton.....	136
Chickasaw.....	504
Bradford.....	987
Richland and Fredericksburg.....	786

---

Total enumeration of Chickasaw county..... 4 024

ABSTRACT OF THE CENSUS OF CHICKASAW COUNTY FOR 1859.

No. of males.....	2 033	
No. of females.....	1 783	
Total population.....		3 816
No. entitled to vote.....		914
No of militia.....		793
No. of foreigners not naturalized.....		144
No of children between the ages of five and twenty-one years.....		1 249
No. of acres of improved lands.....	12 754½	
No. of acres of unimproved lands.....	299 570½	
No. of acres of sorghum.....	46½	
No. of gallons of mollasses from sorghum.....	2 887	
No of acres of orchards.....	81½	
No of tons of hay from Hungarian grass.....	3	
No. of acres of meadow.....	639½	
No. of tons of hay.....	8 684	
No. of bushels of grass seed.....	29½	
No of acres of spring wheat.....	3 032	
No. of bushels of spring wheat harvested.....	10 425	
No. of acres of winter wheat.....	10	
No. bushels of winter wheat harvested.....	13	
No. of acres of oats.....	1 711½	
No. of bushels of oats harvested.....	14 514	
No. of acres of corn.....	3 153½	
No. of bushels of corn harvested.....	53 821	
No. of acres of potatoes.....	317	
No. of bushels of potatoes harvested.....	13 519	
No. of hogs sold.....	569	
Value of hogs sold.....	\$2 818 40	
No. of cattle sold.....	674	

Value of cattle sold.....	\$14 292
No. of pounds of butter manufactured.....	71 234
No. of pounds of cheese manufacture.....	10 111
No. of pounds of wool grown.....	2 226
Value of domestic manufactures.....	\$363
Value of general manufactures.....	\$4 020
Value of agricultural implements.....	\$17 390
No. of dwelling houses.....	772
No. of families.....	772

The whole number of inhabitantants in Chickasaw county, according to the return of the United States marshal, appointed to take the census of the county, in 1860, was 4,740.

The following is a consolidated report from the assessment of the county as returned for the year 1879:

Polls.....	2,910		
Acres of land.....	316,070	Value	\$1 809 475 00
Town property.....		"	156 632 00
No. of cattle.....	15,420	"	107 926 00
No. of horses.....	6,790	"	187 275 00
No. of mules.....	127	"	3 863 00
No. of sheep.....	1,740	"	1 261 00
No. of swine.....	7,995	"	7 911 00
No. of vehicles taxable....	311	"	5 311 00
Merchandise .....			51 477 00
Manufactures.....			4 490 00
Monies and credits.....			73 315 00
Other taxabl property....			7 194 00

Or a total of all property of \$2,401,242.00 to which should be added those articles of property exempt from taxation, viz: \$67,748.00 making a grand total of \$2,468,990.00 as being the wealth of the county for that year.

The report, from the assessment sheet, for 1881, shows as follows:

No. of polls.....	2,874	Value	
Acres of land.....	314,315	"	\$1 725 724
Town property.....		"	134 934
No. of cattle.....	16,244	"	159 755
No. of horses.....	7,241	"	186 456

No. of mules.....	103	"	3 022
No. of sheep.....	1,601	"	1 601
No. of swine.....	9,796	"	9 772
No of vehicles taxable....	299	"	4 787
Merchandise.....			44 288
Maufactures.....			3 140
Monies and credits.....			67 754
Other property.....			12 508

---

\$23 537 41

According to the report of the census marshal who took the census of 1880—there were in the county in that year 14,537 inhabitants of all ages, sex and color. The town of New Hampton being credited with 1,147, Nashua 1,116, and Lawler 487, the balance being distributed throughout the rural districts and smaller towns.



## CHAPTET VIII.

---

BRADFORD TOWNSHIP; LOCATION; EARLY SETTLEMENT; VILLAGE OF BRADFORD; NASHUA; SETTLEMENTS; CHURCHES; SCHOOLS; SOCIETIES; ETC.

---

### BRADFORD TOWNSHIP.

The history of Bradford township, in the days of the pioneers, is closely allied to that of the county, and the history of the latter is the history of the former, inasmuch that there we find the first hardy settlers, who located in that vicinity, when all the balance of the county lay in its primeval solitude.

Its territory embraces all of township 94 north, 14 west, and comprises 36 sections. It is plentifully watered by the Cedar and Little Cedar, with their affluents in the west, and Two Mile run and its branches, in the east. On the former are several very fine mill sites, which have been improved. The Cedar Falls and Minnesota branch of the Illinois Central railroad, traverse a small part of it having, a depot at the city of Nashua; the only important, but not the oldest town in the district.

Long prior to any settlement, within the boundary of the present county, there was a trading post and station, and an Indian bury-



ing ground, near where the town of Bradford now stands, and about the year 1840, a Mr. Wheeler had obtained a contract from the government, to break up and fence, some 400 acres of land for the Indians to cultivate; it being the intention of the government to treat it as a reservation for some Winnebago Indians. The breaking being done, during the summer of that year. His employes, who did the work were, Barber, McCormick, Gilmore, two brothers named Benson, Joe Parsons and of the latter we have gained the knowledge of these facts. Parsons reports that, at that time, the country abounded in all kinds of large game; bears, elk, and deer, and the streams were filled with fish; he shortly left the county and went back to Illinois, where he staid until about 1861, when he returned, and settled in the southern part of Richland township, where he still resides.

In the following winter Mr. Wheeler and his sons returned, and engaged in making the rails and fencing in the ground. It was a most beautiful tract of land, and well fenced. The next year the Indians were brought on to the land, but the experiment indulged in by the government, like many others proved a failure, the Indians being unprovident and disinclined to work. Prairie fires destroyed the fences, and soon all went to decay and ruin. The trading post referred to above was a log house and stood at the south end of the grove on, what is now known as the Cagley estate. The above could hardly be called a settlement, as no white families located then, but in the year 1848, Truman Merritt settled, with his family, on the east side of the Little Cedar, near where Greenwood now is. Here then he built his family mansion, of the logs from the trees that surrounded him and settled down a pioneer of pioneers; here then was born unto him a daughter, in 1850, the first white child born in the county, who, after growing to womanhood, married Avery Earl, and still resides near the city of Nashua. About 1851 some other settlers came into the township among whom we find the names of John and J. A. J. Bird and Wm. Tucker, and followed shortly after by Edward Jones and his sons Alexander and John, and Andrew Sample, Gillet, Case and others. A son of Mr. Case, Elmer by name, having been born in 1851, near Greenwood enjoys the distinction of being the first male child born in the county. Tradition hath

it that about the year 1850 there came into the county a man by the name of DeForest, he was an old bachelor and lived as a hermit in the woods, and pursued the avocation of hunter, and trapper, he afterwards moved into Bradford, where he died, but in what year "deponent saith not." The brothers John and J. A. J. Bird settled at the place where the town of Bradford was subsequently platted, and the emigrants that arrived during 1851 and '52 seem for the most part to have selected that vicinity, here then grew a town just above the junction of the two Cedar rivers, which was, by the expectation of those early settlers to, be the coming metropolis of the west, a Chicago of the Iowa prairies, but their hopes were far from realization, and although the town has one of the most beautiful locations in the county, still its glory has departed, and it hides its diminished head and awaits calmly the end. Here in 1854 was located the county seat which distinction Bradford held until 1857 when the seat of justice was taken to New Hampton.

We find that in the year 1852 Peter Perkins and — Kaufman located at Bradford, and should be enrolled among the names of those early settlers, we have tried to rescue from oblivion, as should also that of Samuel Brink, who came in 1853. In 1852, according to most accounts, the first school was opened, but by whom taught has passed from the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

The first court house was built at Bradford, in 1854, and was the primitive log house, without ceiling, common to the architecture of those early days, and in it were held all the public meetings. James Lyon was the first county judge.

The first and second sermons ever preached in Chickasaw county were by an itinerent Methodist minister, by the name of Ingam, at the house of John Bird, the third by a Mr. Coleman, a Congregational minister,—these in the year 1853. Afterwards a few sermons were preached by A. D. Babcock, a Baptist minister, but the first church society organized was at Bradford, in the fall of 1855, and was Congregational in denomination, and of which the Rev. O. Littlefield was the first pastor. This church being the oldest in the county, will be more fully referred to elsewhere. A good story, illustrating the roughness of the times, is told regarding the second sermon, of Mr. In-

gam. It seems that a portion, and a large one at that, of the men seemed to take offence at something he had reproved them for in his first sermon, gave out that if he attempted to repeat it, he should receive a drubbing, but not deterred by their threats, he assayed to speak the second sermon, as we have said, at the house of John Bird, as soon as he had begun an ominous gathering of men was seen to approach, each armed with a club and headed by Andrew Sample, a typical frontiersman, who could out swear, out drive, wade through more snow, and was fuller of energy than "any other man," and who had been loudest in his denunciations. The crowd approached and instead of at once proceeding to hostilities—remained to listen awhile, and something the speaker said so touched the fiery heart, of their leader, that on the conclusion of the services, he approached Mr. Ingam, and putting out his brawny fist, swore that he should preach there when ever he deemed pleased, and he would lick the man who dared deny him, and throwing away his club called on his companions to do likewise, and Mrs. Bird gathered up enough of them, next day to answer for stove wood for sometime.

The above Andrew Sample was the first sheriff, of the county, and was one of the most prominent men in the infant settlement, having done as much or more than any other man, in developing that region of country, he finally returned to his native state, Missouri, where he now resides.

In 1854 it was the only town in the county, and continued to be the leading one until 1860, since which time it has steadily retrograded, until it has become almost the "deserted village" of the plains. The town was platted on land belonging to the Birds, and they for many years were the most prominent citizens. The township was organized by Jno. and J. A. J. Bird and others by order of the county court, in March, 1855, and comprised of township 94 ranges 13 and 14 or what now are known as Bradford and Richland townships, but at the March term of said court in 1856, the latter was separated from Bradford, and organized as Richland township.

Here we should notice, that the church, erected in Bradford in the early days of the county's history, by the Congregational society, still stands one of the landmarks of that section—still its spire pointing upward seems the monitor bidding all prepare for that journey all must take.

W. S. Pitts, M. D., of Fredericksburg, has made it immortal through that beautiful song, "The Little Brown Church in the Vail." Services are still held in it, the Rev. C. A. Marshal, of Nashua, being the officiating clergyman.

According to the best accounts the first store, in the village of Bradford, was kept by J. A. J. Bird who afterwards sold it out to a Mrs. Chapman; it was but a small affair at the best, and was noted for never having much of any stock, but it deserves a place in history, as the first attempt at merchandising in the township; the date, however, when it was opened is in considerable doubt, but was probably about 1853. After this Pooler and Nicholas opened a larger and more pretentious store, followed shortly by Fritcher and Marinus, both kept dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hardware, drugs, and everything else. There was also about this time a store by — Eastman of the same general character. We have been assured that, the first store after Mr. Bird's was kept by Haskell and Mandeville, but of this there seems to be some doubt; but in 1855 they were among the merchants, along with Leland and Sample, the latter firm however confining themselves to clothing and groceries, Haskell and Hubbell, A. W. Billings and Lonson Covey, were also among the merchants of those early days.

These were succeeded by several others, but E. R. Dickerson alone remains of all, and at the present writing, is the sole merchant in the village.

A saw mill was erected, at Bradford, by Andrew Sample, in the year 1854, but which was afterwards moved away on the dam being washed out by a freshet. Two steam mills were afterwards erected, one by the Bird Bros, and the other by Haskell and Mitchell, but both were destroyed by fire in a few years.

A hotel was erected by Geo. Brunson in 1854, and has been known as the Brunson House to this day, it was originally a small frame building, but has had numerous additions built on. Prior to this Dan'l. Fritcher had a log building, where he had day boarders, and sold meals to the weary travellers, who came into town, for in those days this town was the general stopping place for all of the stage lines, and for emigrants, seeking a home in the boundless west.

The first Blacksmith and wagon maker, was Wm. Dow, who was the foreman in a shop erected and owned by the hotel keeper, Geo. Brunson, but almost simultaneously, the Ellis Bros., opened another shop for the same business, and Peter Perkins another; it is in considerable dispute which of these last named was first.

"Pigs Eye" was the euphonious name of the leading saloon of those early days, was kept by a man by the name of Dodge, a small, deformed individual, since dead. Although prior to his establishing himself, a man by the name of Herbert had a small saloon, which is belived to have been the first in the township.

About 1856, when the minds of all were excited, with the growing importance of the town, a large three story hotel was partially erected, but it was never enclosed, and long stood, a monument to the fallacy of human foresight, and was known to all for many years, as "Brink's Folly," after the man who essayed to build it. It finally, was torn down and used for kindling wood.

Henry Johnson was the first justice of the peace, and a rough uncouth specimen he was, many irreverent storys are told of him, among others, is related, that the first oath in the township was administered by him, under the following circumstances: A man named Horton, being arrested for stealing hogs, was brought before Johnson for trial, who at once proceeded to swear the prisoner, in a manner unprecedented, and probably unequalled in the annals of justice.

"By the uplifted hand of Almighty God, did you steel those hogs? if you did, you hope to be teetototally, G—d—d—ned. So help you God."

History doth not record his answer, but it is to be supposed that the tremendous force of the oath brought the necessary confession from the criminal, if criminal he was.

The first physician who located at Bradford was a "root and herb doctor," as he was called, whose name was S. C. Haynes, who located there about 1855. He was an eccentric genius, and drove instead of horses, a pair of Elk harnessed to his wagon or sleigh. In 1856, Dr. S. S. Troy, a regular practitioner, came to Bradford

and entered up on the duties of his profession, which proved quite lucrative, here he staid healing the sick, and succoring the wounded, until he entered the service of the government in the great Cival war, as Leiut. of Co. H. 4th Iowa Calvalry, afterwards promoted to Captain; when he trurned from the front, he located at Nashua, where he still resides, being engaged in practice of medicine, and the senior partner in the drug house of Troy and Morrison.

#### NASHUA.

This most important and prosperous town is located on the Cedar river, opposite the mouth of the Little Cedar; immediately north of it lies a heavy body of timber. On ground high enough to be above all fear of a flood, yet with a gentle inclination eastward, and amply protected from the prevaiiung high winds, by high ground crested with woods.

Most valuable and excellent water power is afforded by the Cedar river, on the north of the town, and the Greeley flouring mill, thereon erected, is said to be one of the best in this section.

A fine broad and well graded street, one block west of the track of the C. F. and M. Divison of the Illinois Centrol R. R. is lined with substantial buisness houses, many of them quite ornamental, brick and stone being the favorite, materal of which they are built. The residence portion of the city lies west of this, and many handsome nay palatial, mansions, adorn, and are adorned by the beautiful groves of the trees in which they are embowered. Broad avenues lined with trees, lie before the eye and excuse the pride its inhabitants take in their town. Andreas State atlas, says of this city.

"A large section of surrounding country in Chickasaw and Floyd and Bremer counties contributes to the commercial importance of the place. This portion of the Cedar Valley justly celebrated for its productiveness, and the advanced state of improvement which it displays. Here in the midst of such a country, with no important town nearer than Waverly in one dircetion and Charles City in the other, Nashua is most advantageously situed to draw the mercantile trade, and the grain of the country to its market for shipment or manufacture from a wide distance.

"The business of the town is extensive and continually increasing. It embraces a large number of good mercantile houses, in all branches, shops of nearly all descriptions, good hotels, foundry, bank, printing office, dealers in grain, farming implements, lumber etc., etc. It is represented by a liberal array of talent in the legal and medical professions.

"The town has several church organizations, and good houses of worship. Its public schools are well maintained, and graded upon a most efficient system, employing a principal and three or more assistants as instructors. They are provided with a commodious and well furnished public school building which affords ample facilities for the purpose.

"Excellent building stone is found in quarries convenient to the town, and an abundance of good brick manufactured near by."

Among the first to settle on the site of the now town of Nashua we find the name of Mr. John Hall, who came here in the summer of 1854, when there was but one log house, and erected a frame building, but no sash or doors could be had nearer than McGregor, and he and his family were compelled to pass the winter in it without the necessary protection against the wintry blasts. In 1855 several more families moved in, and among them were those of Jas. Helms, George O'Donnell, H. Hall, J. D. Hall, Jacob Hall, Edward Hall, Owen Teeney, John. O'Donnell, Hugh O'Donnell, Jas. Welch and Enoch Woodbridge (universally known as Deacon Woodbridge). The land belonged to Andrew Sample, but selling or trading a half interest to Enoch Woodbridge, they platted a town, and called it at first Bridgeport, but it was shortly afterward changed to Woodbridge, but was altered to its present name by E. P. and C. Greeley, after Nashua, N. H.

The man who first essayed to start a store was Smiley Sample, a brother of Andrew, who had a small place where he dispensed groceries and liquors, this was in the spring of 1856, although it is claimed by some that E. P. Greeley had the first store where every thing was kept. Mr. Greeley started his place in the same year at any rate. B. T. Hall now a resident of the town being his clerk, business however becoming good he was followed shortly afterwards by others, and we find among the merchants, who sought the patronage of the people in 1857, and 8, the following names: Veter and Rupe, general merchandise, Trott and Green,

dry goods and groceries, Geo. T. Butterfield, Enoch Woodbridge Elihu Hall, Geo. H. Fountain and Jas. A. Webster. In 1857 Andrew Sample erected a grist mill which stood for ten years when it was torn down. for the erection of the Greeley mill.

John Hall was the first carpenter and millright, and with him may be named, Stephenson, the date of whose location was almost identical; John Butler was the first blacksmith, John Colt the first wagon-maker.

During the year 1856, A. D. Babcock a free-will Baptist preached at the house of John Hall, there being no church.

W. Read was the first shoemaker in Nashua and this disciple of crispin located himself here about 1855.

The city of Nashua was incorporated under the law of the state of Iowa in 1867, we give a copy of the petition for said incorporation presented to the board of supervisors June 3rd 1867.

To the honorable board of Supervisors of Chickasaw county, Iowa.

We, the undersigned residents and legal voters within the following described territory, being anxious that the same should be incorporated, and that we may enjoy the privileges conferred by the statute of Iowa upon incorporated towns, petition your honorable body asking that the following territory be set apart for that purpose, namely:

The south half of section 18, excepting the north-east of the southeast quarter. The north half of section 19. The west half of the north west quarter of section 20 and west half of the south west quarter of section 17, the same containing seven hundred and sixty acres (760) in township ninety-four range fourteen and includeing within it the present part of Nashua as recorded, in the recorder's office of Chickasaw county, Iowa, and appended hereunto is a map or plat of said territory.

And we further ask that the name of such incorporated town be Nashua. And we hereby appoint and authorize the following named persons to present this petition to your honorable body viz: E. D. Woodbridge, R. M. Nevins, E. P. Greeley, S. P. Leland, Andy Felt, S. W. Byers and John Coler. In the hopes that our humble petition may be granted by your honorable body we subscribe our names here unto.

Signed by S. P. Spindler and 36 others.



The board of supervisors took immediate action on the above, and by a vote, the prayer was granted, and steps were taken to perfect the incorporation.

In 1868 Rosenbaum Bros. opened a banking office which was most successfully conducted until 1870, when a stock company was formed, who bought out the above firm (they retaining some interest) and organized the bank of Nashua.

In 1877 a bank was started in a small way by A. J. Felt. who continued it until in March, 1879, when the First National bank was organized with a capital of \$60,000 A. G. Case Pres., A. J. Felt cashier. In January, 1880, deeming that one bank was sufficient for the needs of the community, the bank of Nashua was merged into the First National bank. Shortly after which A. J. Felt retiring Amos Case became cashier.

Aug. 1st 1880 Louis Slimmer cashier of the Butler Co. bank, Clarksville, Iowa, and Lipman Loser late cashier of the bank of Nashua, opened a banking office under the firm name of Loser and Slimmer, which has proved more than successful, and is one of the prominent business houses of the city.

The first grist mill in Nashua, was one built in 1857, by Andrew Sample, J. S. Hall and T. Ervin, being the carpenters and mill-right. This mill stood for eight years and was torn down by E. P. Greeley to build the present fine one which enjoys the reputation of being one of the best in the northern part of the state. It is a large frame structure with stone basement, built in a substantial and workman-like manner. Has six run of stone, and does a large buisness. A new feed mill has recently been added.

For many years this part of the county possessed a fine agricultural society, but about two years ago the corporation purchased the groun s for a public driving park where the owners of trotting stock could exercise their fleet steppers, thus freeing the streets of their racing and allowing the ordiances against fast driving to be more vigorously enforced. We have endeavored to get hold of the records of the agricultural society but have been unable to do so.

The first school was taught in a little shanty in the eastern part of the town of Nashua in 1856 by Miss Maggie Nichols, an adopted daughter of Enoch Woodbridge, and out of this small beginning

has grown the present fine schools of the town, of which see elsewhere-

A steam saw mill was built by Charles Greeley, on the outskirts of the town, in the year 1858, which was afterward purchased by a Mr. Fisk, who removed it to some place in the state of Minnesota.

A hotel the first in the town of Nashua was erected by Montgomery in the year 1857, J. S. Hall being the contracting carpenter. It was considered a wonderful affair in its time and if we consider its surroundings perhaps it was. Like many another hotel, it has had varying fortunes and having changed hands a number of times is now conducted by J. D. Noyelles who makes a model landlord.

The Patterson House is of more recent date, having been altered from a dwelling and largely added to in 1873. The picturesque site of the hotel, standing back from the street and embowered in trees, makes it peculiarly striking, which added to the really good accommodations afforded and the presence of "mine jolly host," J. W. Patterson, invites the weary traveler to stop and rest.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The Congregational church at Nashua was organized July 7th, 1866, its charter members being:

P. F. May and wife, W. R. Cheney and wife, H. Fountain and Mrs. Hannah Fountain, Mrs. Edw. Hall, Mrs. Enoch Hall, Mrs. Alic. Stocks, Mrs. Selah Billings, Henry Baker and wife and Ira Mead.

Hiram Fountain was the first deacon of the church and Rev. J. K. Nutting of the Bradford church the first acting preacher.

Rev. R. J. Williams began his labors as pastor in 1868, and was succeeded in 1870 by Rev. M. B. Page, a devoted minister of Christ, whose walk was a fit example of his teaching, and who died on the field. The present church edifice was erected in 1870, at a cost of \$3,500.

In 1882 it was repaired, repainted, fenced and otherwise improved and adorned, and is now a very neat and comfortable place of worship.

The Rev. W. B. Page was followed in the pastorate by the Rev. J. G. Spencer and he was succeeded by Rev. L. D. Boynton, who

remained with the church, and ministered to their spiritual needs for five years.

In the same year Aaron Dodge was elected deacon, and with the venerable P. F. May, has remained the faithful deacon of the church to the present day.

Rev. L. D. Boynton retired from the care of this flock in 1878, and in February, 1880, the present pastor, Rev. C. A. Marshall commenced his labors in the vineyard of the Lord; supplying the two pulpits of Bradford and Nashua. To the last named gentleman we are indebted for these facts, which he has kindly furnished at the expense of time and trouble.

#### METHODIST CHURCH.

This is one of the finest church edifices in the county, if not in this part of the state, and deserves more than a passing mention. It was erected in 1878, at a cost of \$12,000 and we are given to understand is nearly paid for. Red pressed brick with trimmings of cream colored stone is the material used, and the architect has so skillfully blended the gothic with the renaissance order of architecture that the effect is more than pleasing. And standing on elevated ground, is the most prominent feature that strikes the eye.

Inside the same good taste prevails, the painting being in those light creamy tints that blend so beautifully with the pale brown with which it is diversified. A fine double banked chandelier lights up the auditorium, and stained glass windows add to the rich effect.

The main room will comfortably seat some 350 people, and already the membership numbers 220. Rev. E. S. Thorpe is the present pastor, and under his administration the church is prospering finely.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

was organized in 1873, and the edifice was built in the same year, and is a neat and substantial frame building. The Rev. Father McGrath of Charles City, having charge of the spiritual welfare the flock.

#### EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Owing to there being no present rector of this church, we were unable to procure any reliable data in regard to it, but simply notice that there is such an organization.

#### SCHOOL.

A fine large brick building, surrounded by a fine play ground,

and shaded by noble trees, and situated in the pleasantest part of the town, stands the school house, And when speaking of it the eye of the citizen lights up with conscious pride for it is regarded by all as the finest one in the county, both by reason of the building and the high grade and excellency of the teaching.

There are three grades, viz: primary, grammar and high school. The primary and grammar departments consist each of four grades, the high school of three; the whole course is intended to occupy the term of eleven years, and the graduates from its higher branches, can readily, without any intermediate study, enter our state university, or any other college of like standing.

The principal, Mr. Henry Felker, is spoken of as one peculiarly fitted for the responsible position which he holds, and is assisted by six lady teachers, whose standing in the profession is second to none.

The text books used are, Appleton's readers, Robinson's arithmetics, Reed and Kellogg's lessons, Harper's geographies, Quackenbos' History of the United States, and the Spencerian system of penmanship. The aim of the board and principal has been to develop as near a perfect mode of instruction as is compatible with strictly practical view of life and its duties.

The board of school directors for the independent school district of Nashua, in 1880-1 was:

R. A. Flemming, President.

Wm. B. Perrin, Secretary.

I. H. Bradford, Treasurer.

#### BOARD.

A. G. Lawrence,

Geo. T. Bellamy,

R. A. Flemming,

A. J. Felt,

W. A. Williams,

H. T. Dexter,

The present officers and directors are:

H. H. Hopkins, President.

B. A. Billings, Secretary.

L. Loeser, Treasurer.

#### BOARD.

R. H. Fairbain,

H. H. Hopkins,

R. M. Nevins,

A. A. Turner,

E. R. Richardson.

H. T. Dexter.

Anchor Lodge, No. 89 A. O. U. W. was organized in Nashua

Dec, 22d, 1876 with fourteen charter members. The officers chosen at that meeting were: P. M. W., W. A. Williams; M. W., E. C. Weeks; G. F., R. A. Flemming; Overseer, H. H. Conklin; Guide, Geo. C. Willard; Rdr, J. A. Weeks; Financier, H. A. Hopkins; Receiver, Wm. Lester; J. W., C. W. Strohn; O. W., J. H. Mitchell.

The lodge has prospered well ever since its inception and report with an average membership of twenty eight, in the six years of its existence there had occurred but one death to mar the perfect circle of fraternity that bind them together. The membership to-day is thirty-three and the officers, Jos. F. Grawe, P. M. W.; W. S. Skinner, M. W.; T. Alfred, Foreman; Jas Hershberg, Overseer; Geo. C. Millard; Rdr., Thos. S. Bradford; Financier, H. T. Dexter, Receiver; O. S. Wherland, O. and J. W.

#### MASONIC.

The masonic lodge was organized by Dr. S. S. Troy, master under a dispensation, in June, 1869, with twenty-two charter members. It now consists of about sixty brothers in good standing. Has a fine hall, fitted up in a good style, for the celebration of the rites of the order. The chapter was organized in 1871 and has a healthy growth.

#### NASHUA POST.

This newspaper was established in the fall of 1869, it is believed, but in the absence of files it is not beyond a mere peradventure. Andy J. Felt was the original proprietor and sole editor until 1873, when the office was purchased by Jos. F. Grawe, who still continues in its editorial chair. The Post is a six-column quarto with patent insides, and is published weekly. The mechanical work is well and neatly done, and editorial department well conducted. In political complexion it is strongly republican, and is the only paper published in the town. The office is well supplied with material, and keeps four compositors busily at work. The paper receives liberal patronage both in its advertising department and in the job work department.

## CHAPTER IX.

---

### NEW HAMPTON TOWNSHIP.

---

A write-up of New Hampton, town and township, should be a fair reflex of the difficulties attending western settlements; not that there were unusual obstacles in the way, or that there were privations, or dangers, beyond those commonly met with under similar circumstances; in fact it is but a record of the upbuilding of a prosperous community, upon the bleak bosom of the boundless prairie, with little or no adventitious aid and with no attempts at what the distinctively American language terms booming.

The records of New Hampton township date back to April 6th, 1857, bearing which date the following record appears:

"Township 95-12 was organized under the name of New Hampton township, on the 6th day of April, A. D. 1857, by virtue of a warrant issued to David Edwards, by Lorenzo Bailey, County Judge of Chickasaw county. Attest H. Gurley, Clerk of Election."

On the first Monday of April, 1857, an election, was held at the house of David Edwards, the board being organized by S. M. Prentice, Esq. of Richland township.

Gideon Gardner, John Patten and Homer Hamlin were the judges, and David Edwards and Harrison Gurley clerks of the election. The following persons were elected to their respective offices: Gideon Gardner and James Melenda, justices of the peace; Oscar Carpenter and Elias Marsh, constables; De Witt C. Chapman, town clerk; Joseph Gardner, road supervisor; J. W. Vanauken, Denizen Calkins, N. D. R. Cole, trustees.

The following officers were elected April 5th, 1857: J. W. Vanauken, Denizen Calkins, Daniel Shook, trustee; Dan Pepper, E. W. Parker, constables; H. Gurley, township clerk.

April 24th, 1858 Gideon Gardner resigned the office of justice of the peace, and the trustees appointed Caleb Arnold to fill vacancy.

ELECTION, OCTOBER, 1858.

Denizen Calkins, Daniel Shook, N. D. R. Cole, trustees; Caleb Arnold, James Melenda justices of the peace; B. E. Morton, constable; D. W. C. Chapman, assessor; H. Gurley, township clerk.

OCTOBER, 1859.

Philip Vanorsdoll, G. W. Pepper, Edward Bell, trustees; H. Gurley, clerk; A. L. Jackson, assessor; James E. Yaunce, justice of the peace; M. C. Roby, D. W. C. Chapman, constables.

NOVEMBER, 1860.

Gideon Gardner, member board of supervisors; James E. Yaunce, George A. Hamilton, justices of the peace; H. Gurley, clerk; A. D. Jackson, assessor; Joseph Gardner, D. W. C. Chapman, J. K. Kronagar, trustees, for short term; Denizen Calkins, N. D. R. Cole, Orlando Roberts, trustees for 1861; M. C. Roby, C. T. Craft, constables.

OCTOBER, 1861,

N. D. R. Cole, David Edwards, J. K. Kronagar, trustees; E. G. O. Groat, assessor; A. D. Jackson, Dan Pepper, constables; L. J. Young, clerk.

OCTOBER, 1862

David Edwards, J. K. Kronagar, W. T. Paul, trustees; G. A. Hamilton, Joseph Young, justices of the peace; L. J. Young, clerk; G. A. Hamilton, assessor; J. D. Arnold, George Colby, constables.

OCTOBER, 1863.

J. K. Kronagar, member board of supervisors; David Edwards,

W. T. Paul, A. T. Jackson, trustees; B. E. Morton, clerk; L. J. Young, assessor; E. T. Runion, Dan Pepper, constables.

NOVEMBER, 1864

N. D. R. Cole, W. T. Paul, A. D. Jackson, trustees; G. A. Hamilton, Joseph Young, justices of the peace; L. J. Young, clerk; A. H. Bartlett, assessor; A. D. Jackson, John Geer, constables.

OCTOBER, 1865.

Gideon Gardner, member board of supervisors; W. T. Paul, Myron Ives, Gilbert Vincent, trustees; W. Johnston, clerk; E. W. Parker assessor; L. H. Phinney, John Geer, constables.

OCTOBER, 1866.

N. D. R. Cole A. D. Jackson, H. S. Gardner, trustees; L. J. Young clerk; A. H. Bartlett, assessor; L. H. Phinney, Nelson Olds, constables; G. A. Hamilton, H. J. Parker, justices of the peace.

OCTOBER 1867.

D. A. Jackson, member board supervisors; M. Burgit, A. S. Gardner, Joseph Young, trustees; G. A. Hamilton, assessor; L. M., Smith, clerk; R. O. Sheldon, constable.

NOVEMBER 1868

J. R. Kenyon, Joseph Young, I. H. Minkler, trustees; Gideon Gardner, J. Colby, justices of the peace; L. J. Young, assessor; L. M. Smith, clerk; Gilbert Vincent, George Reynolds, constables.

OCTOBER 1869

Gideon Gardner, member of the board of supervisors; I. H. Minkler, Joseph Young, Don A. Jackson, trustees; W. Parker, justice of the peace; Z. E. Barrett, assessor; L. M. Smith clerk; George Reynolds, R. O. Sheldon, constables.

OCTOBER 1870

D. A. Jackson, W. E. Hurd, J. A. Mixer, trustees; J. M. Robinson, clerk; Z. E. Barrett, assessor; William Parker, S. J. Colby, justices of the peace; G. H. Reynolds, R. O. Sheldon, constables.

OCTOBER 1871

J. A. Mixer, D. A. Jackson, W. E. Hurd, members of board of supervisors; D. B. Sneden, justice of the peace; Robert Shortley,



assessor; E. P. Sheffield, clerk; Smith Healey, R. O. Sheldon constables.

## NOVEMBER 1872.

W. E. Hurd, Don A. Jackson, I. H. Minkler, trustees; William Parker, S. J. Colby, justices of the peace; Samuel Cotant, assessor; J. M. Robinson, clerk; A. H. Lillebridge; L. M. Smith constables.

## OCTOBER 1873.

I. H. Minkler, Robert Shortley, Hugh Kepler, trustees; W. Parker, justice of the peace; E. P. Sheffield, assessor; J. M. Robinson, clerk;

## OCTOBER 1874

The records for this year are incomplete. D. B. Shelden and John Mays were elected justices of the peace; and J. T. Jackson constable.

## OCTOBER 1875.

The records for this year are also incomplete. D. B. Sneden and J. K. Kroninger were elected justices of the peace; H. P. Cotant, clerk; Walter Cady, constable.

## NOVEMBER 1876

Hugh Kepler, Don A. Jackson, Cornelius Carr, trustees; John Mays, William Parker, justices of the peace; S. R. Wesp, assessor; H. P. Cotant, clerk; Walter Cady, W. W. Morris, constables.

## OCTOBER 1877.

D. A. Jackson, Hugh Kepler, A. A. Brown, trustees; H. P. Cotant, clerk; S. R. Wesp, assessor; J. H. Gurney, justice of the peace.

## OCTOBER, 1878.

F. J. Wesp, Samuel Cotant, Fred Morsch, trustees; E. P. Sheffield, clerk; D. B. Sneden, William Parker, justices of the peace; C. L. Gabrilson, assessor; Lee Miller, Chris Mullen, constables.

## OCTOBER 1879.

Hugh Kepler trustee; G. A. Hamilton, justice of the peace. C. L. Gabrilson, assessor; H. P. Cotant clerk.

## NOVEMBER 1880

C. L. Gabrilson, trustee; Cornelius Carr, D. B. Sneden, justices

of the peace; John Krerger, assessor; A. G. Bigelow, clerk Lee Miller. Chris Mullen constables.

OCTOBER 1881.

F. Marsh, Sr., trustee; G. A. Hamilton, justice of the peace; H. P. Cotant, clerk; Michael Malona, assessor.

NOVEMBER 1882.

F. McCarthy, trustee; D. B. Sneden, C. Carr, justices of the peace; Lee Miller, Charles White, constable; A. B. Harris, clerk, John Debittinger assessor.

In the above list of officers no mention is made of appointments to fill vacancies, which frequently occurred. The names given are of those who were regularly elected at the succeeding elections.

The following entry appears of date given therein.

On petition of J. H. Powers and others, presented to the county judge on the 2d day of July, 1860, the following described territory was set off from the township of Dayton and attached to the township of New Hampton, to-wit: the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 12, township 95, north of range 13 west; as per notice on file in the office of the township clerk, to which reference may be had. (Signed) H. Gurley, clerk.

#### NEW HAMPTON.

The town of New Hampton, which is the county seat of Chickasaw county, deserves its importance and consequent prosperity chiefly from the fact that it is the geographical center of the county. The pioneers, who established the place, relied upon this fact to make good their investments, and the sequel showed that their judgment was not at fault; for, after divers contests, which will be found to be recorded elsewhere, the seat of county government was ultimately and permanently located here, and peace is now perpetuating what intermittent warfare won.

As will appear hereafter, New Hampton was incorporated in 1873, and dates its beginning from 1855, at the commencement of which year there were no building on the present townsite, and no townsite in reality. Don A. Jackson, who located within a mile and a half of the present town in May, 1855, relates that at that time the town had no existence, actual or prospective. The name of the place was at first Chickasaw center, but was afterward changed to New Hampton by Osgood Gowan in compliment to

his native town in New England. According to Mr. Jackson's recollection, since corroborated by other pioneers, the first house erected in the town was built by David Edwards, and stood near where the creamery is now located. It was a small board dwelling. James Jarred built a log house not long afterwards, which stood in the center of the street between the Fitch block and the Gurley store building. Jarred sold to two men named Jacobs and Ross, who put in a small stock of general merchandise; which they subsequently sold with the building, to Osgood Gowan. At the time of this sale Gowan kept the post office—he being the first postmaster—at his home in the woods, about one mile northeast of town. Gowan had to go to Jacksonville, for the mails, and sometimes to West Union, on foot. He owned 160 acres where he lived, and in fact traded with Jacobs and Ross for the store property, and moved the post office to what is now called New Hampton. Gowan afterwards sold to Harrison Gurley, who, with Gideon Gardner, and Homer Hamlin, had come to New Hampton in 1856. Gurley erected the well known frame store building on the corner of Main street and Locust avenue, where he kept store quite a number of years, during ten of which, at least, he was the only merchant in New Hampton.

It is particularly difficult to reconcile conflicting memories, as to occurrences which date back quite a number of years. The first public place of entertainment in New Hampton was a log house erected by Samuel Shaw, Harvey S. Hill becoming the owner of it at a later date, and converting it into a rude sort of hostlery. The building was also occupied, for a time by Gideon Gardner as a dwelling. William Johnson subsequently owned it, and moving it back, erected a frame in front, which he used as a saloon, himself and family dwelling in the log portion. Johnson sold to Hon. James F. Babcock, who, with his father, moved into the log portion, and transposed the saloon into a drug store, which was the pioneer drug store of New Hampton. This log building, was never a part of the hotel proper, which was built in the first place on the ground east of it, by Daniel Shook, and which underwent various names and changes of proprietorship, being remembered best as the Dixon house and the New Hampton hotel. Shook erected the central portion of this building and the kitchen. He was succeeded by Don. A. Jackson, who sold to W. D. Gardner. Mr.

Gardner added the west main portion of two stories, and afterwards sold to John Dixon, who built upon the east side, moved the kitchen to the rear of the Gardner addition, and extended the main part to the rear. Dixon sold to H. L. Fitch, and in 1881 the building was destroyed by fire. Upon its site Mr. Fitch erected in 1882 a fine brick business block of two stories, with three store rooms on the ground floor, a total cost of \$15,000.

The Central house now owned and constructed by E. H. Yarger, was erected by Daniel Pepper, who sold to C. H. Clough, and he in turn to O. Dana, Yarger assuming the proprietorship in 1882.

The property which J. F. Babcock purchased of William Johnson, was located where Mr. Babcock's brick building, occupied by L. L. Briggs' drug store, now is. The first brick business building in New Hampton was erected by Mr. Babcock in 1871, just west of the Johnson property, and is now occupied by W. D. Gardner & Co's. drug store. Into this building Mr. Babcock moved his stock of drugs, tore down the old log house, and rented for office purposes the frame he had just vacated. The frame gave place to the present brick structure in 1881.

Very little was done by way of building in 1855. A man named Cook and his son-in-law erected another building, in addition to those already mentioned, and there was possibly still another on the lot now occupied by Auditor Sheffield, which latter may not have been built until 1856.

In 1867 Judge Arnold erected a dwelling house, several others, also being erected during that year.

In 1855, the only effort made toward laying out the town was the staking out of the block on which the Shook building was erected. The town was not regularly laid out until 1857, September 12th of that year being the date when the plat was made of record. G. Gardner, Homer Hamlin, David Edwards, H. Gurley and E. T. Runion were the original proprietors. Gardner and Hamlin owned each an undivided half, of W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , section 7, and the balance was owned by Gurley, Edwards and Runion.

The rapid growth of New Hampton dates from the coming of the railroad in 1868, business for some time thereafter being stimulated to unwonted activity. Ernest Warner, who came in 1858, was New Hampton's first wagon maker; E. T. Runion, the first

blacksmith, came in 1857. A man named Morton who came in 1859, was the first shoemaker.

The post office was established in 1855 or 6, Osgood Gowan being the first postmaster. Since then the following gentlemen have occupied the position in the order mentioned; H. Gurley, Daniel Shook, Samuel Cotant, Don A. Jackson, C. McCulloch, Samuel Cotant, C. McCulloch, J. C. Johnson, C. McCulloch, the latter being the present incumbent. The office was made a money order office October 1st, 1877.

The election to determine the question of incorporation was held at the court house in New Hampton, April 26th, 1873. A. E. Bigelow, H. Gurley, W. W. Langdon, Zelotes Bailey and D. B. Sneden were appointed commissioners of incorporation, D. B. Sneden and W. W. Langdon officiating as clerks of the election. One hundred votes were cast, seventy for, and thirty against incorporation.

The first election for officers of the incorporation was held May 21st, 1873. The following were elected: James F. Babcock, mayor; E. P. Sheffield, recorder; A. E. Bigelow, C. H. Clough, W. W. Birdsall, M. C. Ayres, John Mays, councilmen.

The officers elected for the succeeding years, omitting the councilmen, are as follows:

1874.

G. Gardner, mayor; D. B. Sneden, recorder; B. G. Smith, treasurer; G. H. Reynolds, marshal; S. R. Shear, street commissioner.

1875.

H. M. Mixer, mayor, James Young, recorder; H. J. Wing, marshal; D. W. Payne, street commissioner; B. G. Smith, treasurer; Samuel Cotant, assessor.

1876.

H. M. Mixer, mayor; E. P. Sheffield, recorder; B. G. Smith, treasurer; Samuel Cotant, assessor; Walter Cady, marshal; Fred Simmick, street commissioner.

1877.

S. J. Kenyon, mayor; E. P. Sheffield, recorder; Samuel Cotant assessor; Fred Simmick, street commissioner; B. G. Smith, treasurer.

1878.

S. J. Kenyon, mayor; E. P. Sheffield, recorder; B. G. Smith, treasurer; Samuel Cotant, assessor; F. Simmick, street commissioner; Tim Dorgan, marshal.

1879.

A. E. Bigelow, mayor; E. P. Sheffield, recorder; J. J. Arbuckle, street commissioner; B. G. Smith, treasurer; Samuel Cotant, assessor.

1880.

F. D. Bosworth, mayor; G. A. Hamilton, recorder; B. G. Smith, treasurer; Wilbur Sherman, street commissioner; Samuel Cotant, assessor.

1881.

F. D. Bosworth, mayor; G. A. Hamilton, recorder; B. G. Smith, treasurer; Samuel Cotant, assessor; Chas. Carpenter, street commissioner. During this year F. D. Bosworth presented his resignation as mayor, to take effect June 4th, and at a special election held June 20th, J. H. Gurney was elected to fill vacancy. Gurney resigned July 11th, and at a special election held July 25th, Hiram Shaver was elected mayor for the unexpired term.

1882.

Hiram Shaver, mayor; G. A. Hamilton, recorder; B. G. Smith, treasurer; W. B. Porter, assessor; Thos. Hall, street commissioner. The office of marshal, which has been of late years appointive, is held at date of this writing by H. J. Wing. The members of the city council for 1882-3 are H. H. Potter, E. P. Sherman, John Foley, H. H. Heming, J. M. Gilliland, Charles Lilge.

A history of Chickasaw county would be incomplete without more than mere mention of the late F. D. Bosworth. In so far as the writer has been able to learn, Mr. Bosworth, was a man of excellent executive capacity, and a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. He was a native of Vermont, and was educated at Tiffin, Ohio. He came to Chickasaw county in 1856, and first taught school at Greenwood, in Bradford township. Afterwards he went to the old town of Forest City, where he worked for Judge Hiram Bailey, at splitting rails. The rails were twelve feet long, and the price paid for splitting was \$1.25 per hundred. He was subsequently appointed deputy county clerk, was elected treasurer and recorder, was county

school superintendent, internal revenue assessor, mayor of New Hampton, and at the time of his death in December, 1881, was cashier of the First National bank. He was at one time an unsuccessful candidate for representative to the state legislature, being defeated therefore by D. B. Hanan, Esq., main cause of his defeat appearing to be republican disaffection, with A. J. Felt, the then editor of the Nashua Post, in the van of the opposition, personal ambition for the state senator being the actuating motive. Mr. Bosworth entered the army as a private, and became second lieutenant of company B, seventh Iowa infantry. Much historic matter could be found in the annals of this well remembered company, but space does not permit, neither, perhaps, would it be best to enter too closely into details; but it is sufficient to say that among its members were, "Andy" Felt, G. J. Tisdale, E. A. Haskell, Judge Robert G. Riniger, J. H. Powers, Deacon Gardner, J. Rutherford, G. W. S. Dodge, Charles H. Trott, W. W. Birdsall, Z. Bailey, D. Campbell, B. E. Morton, and Robert H. Mills.

These men were all more or less interested in political affairs, were "manipulators of the wires," so to speak, with ambitions and aspirations of their own, and company B. was known as one in which there was even more than the ordinary amount of intrigue. These things are said, not in the way of casting reflections upon any one, for all now look back upon those times with a smile and the appreciation of humor, and there is nothing of bitterness and little of discredit in the recollection; but it may be readily imagined what kind of a time there was, and also will be in an organization composed of such managing spirits as those named above.

Mr. Bosworth was also a lawyer although he did not engage in active practice.

To appreciate fully the important part enacted in the history of Chickasaw county by Bosworth, one should study the records, wherein his name almost constantly appears for a series of years, in one capacity or another. The writer is conscious that this tribute to the dead should be written by a loving hand, by one who knew Mr. Bosworth, and therefore thinks tenderly of him. For all who knew him speak of him with reverence, and there are qualities of head and heart which are in themselves imperishable, though he who had them may go out from among us. There is

nothing left for the writer to do, save to put on record some hint of what he would like to say concerning F. D. Bosworth, some vague hint of roses and evergreen, that should be kept in constant fragrance upon his tomb, for dear remembrance sake. If a stranger can be so impressed with a life-record learned at second hand, truly those who know the maker of that record can linger lovingly in tender contemplation of it.

An incident showing the danger which beset the life of the pioneer, was the losing of Miss Hannah Runion, daughter of E. T. Runion, in the snow, in February, 1867. Miss. Runion who married F. B. Weed was, about eighteen years old at the time. In coming home from Jacksonville, Mr. Runion stopped for a time at his daughter's place of residence, about one mile and a half from that town. She concluded to come on home with him and the two left the house together. Mr. Runion had been driving a team attached to a sled, but on coming out of the house they discovered that the team was missing, and consequently undertook to walk to New Hampton. The night was a fearful one; they lost their way, wolves followed them; and their experience was indeed a thrilling one. Hannah became exhausted; and the father carried her quite a distance. It finally became only too apparent that escape was impossible for both of them; they could no longer go on together and the only hope for them was for the father to bury the daughter in the snow, and himself reach means of assistance. This was accordingly done; a spot was selected upon a knoll around which shrubbery grew, near the creek, a willow tree serving as a landmark, by which to know again the locality. This was in the early morning, and to reach New Hampton required Mr. Runions utmost efforts, through out the entire day. He stopped at Utley's residence east of the fair grounds. The alarm was given but nothing could be done until the following day. On the third day a vigorous search was instituted; the citizens turned out en masse, but the winds and drifting snow had changed the aspect of the landscape as to make it impossible to locate the spot where the young woman was buried. For a time the search appeared to be a hopeless one, and the impression grew upon the searchers that the girl would not be found until after she had succumbed to the terrors of her perilous situation, to hunger or all the combined causes which rendered her position such a fearful



one; she had used every effort to dig away the snow which enveloped her, and to make her presence known but to little avail, the snow being removed from about her sufficiently however to cause one of the searchers, Wilbur Sherman, in crossing the spot to fall through thus terminating the exciting hunt. The young lady was immediately taken care of and was soon out of danger. It is no wonder that even at this distance of time neither Mr. Runion nor Mrs. Reed care to talk of their terrible experience in that bitter storm, and it is only given here because it is a matter of history which is even yet talked of with interest by the citizens. .

School was first taught in New Hampton in the winter of 1866-7 in the north east room of the David Edwards dwelling a house enclosed with siding and plastered with prairie mud between the studding. The school was taught by Mrs. Isabel H. Gurley, wife of Harrison Gurley. Eight or ten pupils attended. The furniture was of the most primitive description. Mr. Gurley had purchased property, but had not yet moved to the town, and Mrs. Gurley kept house in the school room, moving the rude benches in and out after school.

The term lasted three months in that building and school was next held during the summer in a little frame house east of town; afterwards in the old log store formerly occupied by H. Gurley and subsequently, a building (now H. L. Fitch's residence) was erected, the lower story of which was used for school purposes, the upper for county officers. School was taught in this building until the erection of a structure on the site occupied by the present school house, in 1867. This building was thirty by forty feet in dimensions, an addition of about equal size being subsequently made, and contained four departments. Dr. I. K. Gardner as principal opened the school in this building. In the spring of 1881 the building was destroyed by fire, the present structure being erected during the same year, and completed in 1882, at a cost of \$13,000.

At the time of writing, the following gentlemen comprise the board of education: Dr. H. M. Mixer, president; Dr. A. Babcock, W. W. Birdsall, W. D. Stafford, A. L. Montgomery, J. W. Snyder; B. G. Smith, secretary; A. E. Bigelow, treasurer.

Previous to the burning of the school building in 1881, a primary school was also held in Dawes Hall.

A course of study for the public schools was written by Prof. Gardner in 1880, and re-arranged and published by Prof. H. A. Simons in 1882, with the following prefatory remarks:

"In preparing this course of study the principal and school-board have been controlled by the conviction that the ground-work in education is of supreme importance; that it is our duty, so far as it is possible, to fit the pupils intrusted to our care for intelligent and useful citizenship; and that those who wish to pass from our schools to higher institutions, should have the foundations thoroughly laid here. They have therefore restricted the course to such fundamental work as can be well done in the limited time.

"Pupils taking the entire course and passing a creditable examination thereupon will be entitled to a diploma.

"Those who do not wish to graduate, will be permitted, after they reach the high school course, to make their own selection of studies, whenever there are classes in the branches selected."

The following is a list of the text books adopted: Readers, Webb's Model readers; Edwards' Student's reader, for the high school. Gilbert's spellers. Sherwood & Co's. Analytical copy books. Kirk & Belfield's arithmetics. Greenleaf's algebra. Reed & Kellogg's grammars. Parker's composition. Kellogg's rhetoric. Appleton's Geographies. Anderson's histories. Hutchinson's Physiology. Gray's Botany.

The enrollment of the schools is about 315, and is constantly increasing. The first-class to graduate will be that of '84, and now contains eight members.

The following is the present efficient corps of teachers: Prof. H. A. Simons, principal; Miss Alice R. Green, assistant, high school; Miss Abbie S. Powers, senior grammar; Miss Willie Nelson junior grammar; Miss Carrie Ward, fourth primary; Miss Emma E. Fitch, third primary; Miss Eva E. Mixer, second primary; Miss Lucy Cameron, first primary.

#### THE BUSINESS OF NEW HAMPTON.

An indication of the volume of business transacted in New Hampton will be found in the following accurate statement:

Shipment of grain and produce from New Hampton, via C. M. & St. P. Ry., during the year 1882:

Wheat.....lb	310 850
Barley.....	725 155
Oats.....	2 057 570
Corn.....	3 649 848
Grass seed.....	870 160
Flax seed.....	1 810 575
Potatoes.....	202 818
Dressed hogs.....	34 040
Cheese.....	58 623
Eggs.....	131 855
Butter.....	265 840
Hogs, 108 cars.....	2 160 000
Horses, 3 cars.....	60 000
Cattle, 17 cars.....	340 000
Total shipments.....	14 004 534
Total receipts.....	13 368 136
<hr/>	
Total money on shipments of freight.....	38 050 88
Total money on receipts of freight.....	30 658 98
Total money received for tickets.....	7 253 78
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$75 963 64

There has also been a large amount of butter and eggs shipped by express, not included in the above figures.

The past year was marked by quite a number of improvements in the way of new buildings, etc. Among the business structures erected may be mentioned the following:

H. H. Kenyon, brick; two stories; cost \$5,500.

H. L. Fitch, brick, for three stores; two stories; cost \$15,000.

Dr. H. M. Mixer and Bennett Bros., brick; two stories; offices and opera house above; cost \$20,000.

Addition to Odd Fellows' block: cost \$1,100.

B. Tierney, brick; two stories; cost \$4,000.

The entire list of buildings, additions and improvements during the past year, would foot up to many thousand dollars.

Glenwood creamery, W. D. Kipp & Co., proprietors, was established November 1st. 1881, and is one of the institutions in which

New Hampton's citizens justly take pride. The creamery buildings are located on east Main street, and are forty by sixty feet in dimensions. The average price paid for cream, by Messrs. Kipp & Co., during 1882, was twenty-one cents per pound. During the year 1882 the firm paid out in all about \$25,000. Seven wagons are employed in collecting cream and two employees are regularly kept at work in the creamery.

The First National bank of New Hampton, is an outgrowth of the Chickasaw county bank and the bank of New Hampton, both of which it absorbed at the date of its formation, December 15th, 1881. The Chickasaw county bank was the pioneer institution of the kind in New Hampton, and was organized in January, 1870, by A. E. Bigelow and J. H. Easton, proprietors. Mr. Bigelow is a pioneer citizen of the county, in which he has large landed interests, and has held various positions of responsibility and trust, was formerly county treasurer, and is held in high esteem. Mr. Easton is a well known capitalist, whose principal place of residence is in Decorah, Winnesheik county, where, as here and in still other localities, he has extensive banking interests. Harrison Gurley was president of the bank of New Hampton, and F. D. Bosworth was cashier. Mr. Bosworth died shortly after the formation of the present bank. The First National occupies a handsome brick structure on the corner of Main street and Locust avenue, erected especially for banking purposes, and which is one of the best equipped bank buildings in northern Iowa. The capital stock of the First National is \$50,000. It does a general banking business, buys and sells exchange, makes loans, receives deposits, etc. An extensive real estate business is also transacted in this connection. The present officers of the bank are: A. E. Bigelow, president; Samuel J. Kenyon, cashier; A. G. Bigelow, assistant cashier.

The banking house of Smith & Darrow was established in 1879. The proprietors are Messrs. B. G. Smith and W. L. Darrow. Mr. Smith has lived in Chickasaw county twenty-seven years, thirteen years of the time in New Hampton. Mr. Darrow has resided in the county eighteen years, and has been in the loan business for the past twelve years. The latter gentleman is a large real estate owner, having over 1,000 acres of finely improved land in this county. Mr. Smith has been actively engaged in banking

ever since it began to have an existence in New Hampton. The firm do a general banking, loan and real estate and insurance business, and are reckoned among the county's most substantial and reliable citizens.

#### ATTORNEYS.

J. H. Powers came in 1857, and is still in practice here.

C. O. Case came in 1858; is now a resident of Oswego, New York.

M. C. Ayres came in 1865, and still resides in New Hampton.

Hiram Shaver, still in practice here, located in New Hampton in 1871.

S. J. Kenyon, now cashier of the First National bank, located in practice at New Hampton in 1869.

H. H. Potter, still in practice, located here in 1870.

D. B. Hanan came to New Hampton from Fredericksburg.

D. B. Sneden a regularly admitted attorney, but who holds the office of justice of the peace, located here in 1871.

F. D. Bosworth, who never regularly practiced the profession, died in New Hampton in 1882. A sketch of his life appears in preceding pages.

J. M. Gilliland, for three terms clerk of the courts, is still a resident of New Hampton, was admitted to the bar, but is not in the practice.

J. H. Gurney came in 1873, was for a number of years in practice here, but now resides in Nebraska.

A. C. Boylan entered into practice in New Hampton, in 1878, and is still an active member of the New Hampton bar.

George E. Stowe, also in active practice here, came from Chicago in 1880.

W. J. Springer, still in practice here, came in 1879.

R. E. Ronayne came to New Hampton in 1880, and in 1882 removed to Aberdeen, Dakota.

John R. Bayne came to New Hampton in 1879, and removed to Oregon in 1882, locating subsequently in Minnesota.

Samuel Young lived in this township, but never in New Hampton. He was admitted to the bar, and was county surveyor at an early day.

O. K. Hoyt came from Illinois in 1871, and moved to Humbolt, Iowa, in 1880.

The first lawyer in Chickasaw county was G. W. Howard, who subsequently became state senator, filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. J. H. Powers to enter the military service during the war of the rebellion. Howard was afterward appointed major of the 27th Iowa infantry, and served through the rebellion. He now resides at Waterloo, Iowa.

The next attorney was F. D. Hall, who was at one time prosecuting attorney of the county, and who now live in Richland township.

A. G. Case, now president of the First National bank of Charles City, and of the First National bank of Nashua was the next attorney who came to Chickasaw county.

J. H. Powers was the fourth attorney to locate in the county. A biographical sketch of Mr. Powers will be found in detail elsewhere. It is sufficient here to say that he is still a resident of New Hampton, whose destinies he has had by no means a small share in shaping, a remark which is equally true concerning Mr. Power's close indentification with the history of the entire county.

D. A. Babcock, of Bradford township, was never regularly admitted, although he succeeded at one time in being elected to the office of prosecuting attorney, the time of his election being at the organization of the county. It is stated that, on account of his not having been admitted to practice, he was ineligible to the office, and in this connection the following anecdote is told:

While returning from the memorable county seat fight, which will be long remembered in county annals as the Battle of Bailey's Lane, his horse was drowned in crossing a slough, and as a means of getting compensation for the loss of the animal, he presented a bill against the county for salary, as prosecuting attorney, during the time he would have served, in that capacity, and the part of the little reminiscence, which the pioneers particularly laugh over is, that the claim was actually allowed.

#### PHYSICIANS, SURGEONS AND DENTISTS.

Dr. H. M. Mixer located in New Hampton in 1865, and still resides here in the practice of his profession, the firm now being Drs. Mixer & Gardner.

Dr. Babcock located here in January, 1867, and continues to practice his profession in New Hampton.

In the early part of 1870, Dr. Biederman came to New Hamp-

ton, but remained here only about one year, going from here to Bremer county, Iowa.

Dr. E. H. Olmsted came to Chickasaw county in 1857, locating first at Fredericksburg, where he remained until 1872, when he changed his place of residence to New Hampton, and has been in constant practice here ever since.

Dr. I. K. Gardner located in practice at Lawler in 1870, from which place he came to New Hampton in 1878, forming the partnership with Dr. Mixer, mentioned above.

Dr. Isaac Prince came here in 1878, but remained only five or six months.

Dr. F. Nestman came in 1880, and remained several months.

Dr. Keith remained here about one year.

Dr. A. Sterzi located in New Hampton in August, 1880, and is still engaged in practice here.

Dr. A. E. Clark, dentist located here in 1879; and Dr. J. T. Ferguson, also a dentist, located here in 1877. Both gentlemen continue to practice their profession in New Hampton. Dr. D. J. Pollock opened a dental office here about the year 1869, remained about two years, and moved away to a subsequent location unknown. Dr. J. P. Campbell, also a resident dentist, died in 1879.

Mrs. Dr. Sterzi is also a regularly educated medical practitioner, and is in active practice of the profession.

#### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEW HAMPTON.

On the 8th day of February, 1858, a meeting was held in the school house—being the log house formerly occupied by H. Gurley, as a dwelling, store and post office, at which time it was resolved, "To take the preliminary steps to organize a Christian church that shall embrace all evangelical christians" under said resolution a committee of seven was appointed consisting of Gideon Gardner, David Edwards, D. Calkins, Caleb Arnold, Walter E. Beach, Dr. J. F. Willson and J. H. Powers, to report a basis, articles of faith and covenant. W. E. Beach lived in Jacksonville and Dr. Willson in Richland, and neither of them ever met with the committee.

Of the remainder of the committee G. Gardner was a Congregationalist, David Edwards a United brethren, Denizen Calkins, a free will Baptist, Caleb Arnold a close communion Baptist, and

J. H. Powers had never been a member of any church, although reared as a Presbyterian.

On the 13th of the same month the committee reported a basis, articles of faith and covenant and the name given the church was, "The Pilgrim Church of New Hampton."

On May 25d, 1865, the articles of incorporation were prepared and the society received a corporate existence under the name of "First Congregational Ecclesiastical Church Society of New Hampton," and the church became known as the First Congregational church of New Hampton.

On Sunday morning the 14th of February, 1858, the citizens met in the log school house for the purpose of organizing the church. The Rev. J. C. Strong, who was then the pastor of the Bradford Congregational church, was present to aid in the services, and the church was organized, with Gideon Gardner, Naomi Gardner, Harrison Gurley Isabella Gurley, Jas. D. Colt, Amelia Colt, Jason Morton and J. H. Powers as members.

On the 5th day of February, 1859, the Rev. J. C. Strong again preached for the church and C. O. Case, May Case, Christiana Morton, Hannah Morton, John L. Vanauken, Emma Vanauken, G. A. Hamilton and M. H. Hamilton made application to become members of the church and were admitted. The regular pastor was called in the person of the Rev. Thos. N. Skinner, who commenced his labors on July 5th 1862, and continued to act as pastor until the summer of 1864, preaching every alternate Sunday in New Hampton and Fayette.

During the year 1863, the present church building was erected at a cost of \$1,670; \$500 was donated by Jay Cooke, and \$200 by the Boston Congregational Union. The record shows the following report of building committee, which was adopted: "Size of house, 28x36; windows, 12 lights, 9x16 glass; height of room 14 in the clear; three windows on a side.

To the Rev. Thos. N. Skinner, much of the success in building was due, he working with his own hands whenever opportunity offered. The church was not finished for occupancy until 1865, and was not seated until 1866.

Rev. Harvey Adams was the successor of T. N. Skinner and entered upon his pastorate December 1st, 1866, and closed his services as pastor of the church, December 25th, 1870.

Rev. Thomas Boyne was the successor of the Rev. Harvey



Adams, and entered upon his pastorate, February 19th, 1871, and continued and terminated January 28, 1876.

Rev. J. M. Riddlington was a Methodist minister, who had been stationed at New Hampton the preceeding year, and was at his request placed upon the retired list on account of poor health.

He was hired to fill the Congregational pulpit for six months, preaching the first part of the time every Sabbath, and after his removal to Cresco every alternate Sabbath.

At the February meeting February 3, 1877. Rev. C. A. Marshall; he having preached for the church three months on trial—was chosen pastor of the church and closed his services as acting pastor January 20th, 1880.

The Rev. E. C. Moulton who is now pastor commenced his services, February, 1882.

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOCIETY

is one of the leading organizations of New Hampton, and occupies a handsome structure, 34 by 66 feet in dimensions, which was erected in the winter of 1872-3. Rev. Mr. Wilcox the first regular pastor preached in the old court house. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Hazleton, who remained two years, and during whose administration the society purchased Dawes Hall, fitting up the upper story of the building as a parsonage. Rev. J. W. Bissell was the next pastor, and remained one year, being succeeded by Rev. C. H. Taylor. Mr. Taylor was the pastor two years, and it was during his stay that the present edifice was erected. Rev. Nathaniel Pye succeeded Mr. Taylor remaining two years, and was followed by Rev. John Baldwin, who also remained two years, being succeeded in turn by Rev. S. Sherin. Rev. Hager came in 1880, and was succeeded in 1882 by the present pastor, Rev. J. W. Jones. The present trustees of the society are Dr. A. Babcock, W. D. Stafford, W. L. Darrow, I. H. Minkler, A. McDonald, E. S. Fitch, J. T. Ferguson. Mrs. A. Babcock is the recording steward the others being J. A. Albertson, W. L. Darrow, W. D. Stafford, A. McDonald and J. T. Ferguson

#### ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

on south Broadway, was erected some thirteen years ago. A foundation was first laid on Main street, diagonally opposite the Central House, but the site was subsequently changed to the present one. The congregation was organized April 3rd, 1870 J. W. Mitchell being elected treasurer. A soliciting

committee of six was appointed. When the building of the edifice was decided upon, there was but \$50 in the treasury of the congregation. Owing principally to want of funds, and the consequent necessity of borrowing, the costs of the structure exceeded what it would otherwise have been, the total cost being about \$4,000. A handsome brick parsonage was erected in 1879. The congregation which at the beginning was very small, there being at that time not more than three Catholic families in New Hampton, now represents some two hundred families living in the town and surrounding country. It is gratifying to note that St. Joseph's is now entirely free from debt. At the time of organization the wants of the congregation were attended to by Rev. Fr. Harrison. Rev. J. P. Probst was the first officiating priest and was succeeded by Rev. Patrick Burke; whose successor was Rev. John L. Gosker. Rev. Fr. Leahey the present pastor succeeded Rev. Fr. Gosker, and through his indefatigable efforts, both the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregation continued to improve. There is now little for the committee to do as the congregation is firmly established in the community.

The Catholic cemetery is located on the southwest quarter of section six about one half mile from New Hampton. The cemetery has been established now about ten years, is advantageously situated, well laid out and fenced. Improvements in other directions are in immediate contemplation and will no doubt be effected during the current year.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN ST. PAUL CONGREGATION OF NEW HAMPTON.

This society was organized March 15th, 1871, by Rev. John Klindworth, of Galena Illinois and Ed. Wachtel, of New Hampton. The first members were Fred Deppe, H. Deppe, Chr. Rabe, Fr. Kempendorf, Aug. Kempendorf, I. Reith, George Danner, Fr. Piehn, Fr. Siminck, Herm Christopher, Aug. Tiepan, Rev. Ed. Wachtel was the first regular pastor and still has pastoral charge. The church membership comprises twenty-two families. Services were at first held in the court house hall, then in the English Congregational church. and afterward in Dawes' Hall. The present church edifice was erected in August, 1880. is 52 by 28 feet in dimensions, and cost \$1,900. The present church officers are: Fred Deppe, treasurer; George Danner, H. Deppe Albert

Drawelow, trustees, Aug. Arndt deacon; Th. Jaehrling president; Albert Drawelow secretary.

THE GERMAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEW HAMPTON was organized June 20th, 1874, by Rev. Henry Hess of Fort Atkinson, who was the first (and still continues to be the) pastor. There are fifty-three members of the society. Services were first held in the old Congregational church. The present edifice was erected in 1879, is 26 by 38 feet in dimensions and costs \$1,500. The following are the present officers of the society: Trustees B. Blatte, V. Boos, H. Rehorst, H. Robrock, C. K. Staples. H. Christoph and V. Boos are the deacons; F. Kempendorf is the secretary; H. Rehorst, treasurer; Joshua Sutter, Sunday school Superintendent.

HOPE EPISCOPAL MISSION, of New Hampton, was organized July 30th, 1877, Rev. D. W. Tolford conducting the first service and continuing to officiate for some time thereafter. As yet the mission has erected no church edifice and services have been for two years or more discontinued. The organization is, however, kept intact by the wardens, S. J. Kenyon and Samuel Young and no doubt the near future will witness a revival of interest, with consequent growth of membership and all that it implies.

NEW HAMPTON LODGE NO. 84, A. O. U. W., was instituted September 2d, 1876, with the following fifteen charter members: J. F. Babcock, Lee Chapman, Charles A. Harris, Amos Babcock, Jr., T. H. Schulte, E. P. Sherman, William D. Collins, John Kress, Thomas Iverson, John McLaren, James A. Albertson, A. E. Bigelow, W. W. Birdsall, L. W. Smith, Oliver K. Hoyt. The first officers were as follows: Amos Babcock, Jr., P. M. W.; T. H. Schulte, G. F.; W. W. Birdsall, Recorder; A. E. Bigelow, Receiver; E. P. Sherman, I. W.; O. K. Hoyt, M. W.; John McLaren, Overseer; L. N. Smith, Financier; C. A. Harris, Guide; Thomas Iverson, O. W. The present officers are: A. E. Bigelow, P. M. W. and M. W.; J. A. Albertson, Foreman; John McLaren, Overseer; E. N. Olmstead, Recorder; E. P. Sheffield, Financier; W. L. Darrow, Receiver; C. A. Harris, Guide; G. R. McMullen, I. W.; E. P. Sherman, O. W. Thus far there has been but one death in the lodge membership, that of Dr. J. P. Campbell, which occurred in the autumn of 1879. Dr. Campbell was by profession a dentist, and was for a number of years receiver of

the lodge. Meetings are held semi-monthly, in W. J. Springer's office, on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings in each month. There are about thirty-six members, and the lodge is prospering finely.

ARCANA LODGE, NO. 274, A. F. & A. M.

The charter was granted June 8th, 1870, the lodge having been organized under dispensation August 13, 1869, with the following officers: F. D. Bosworth, W. M.; James F. Babcock, S. W.; D. A. Jackson, J. W.; Z. Bailey, Secretary; A. E. Bigelow, treasurer; A. Babcock, S. D.; Z. Barrett, J. D.; L. B. Davidson, Tyler. F. D. Bosworth was W. M. from August 13, 1869, to June 1st, 1871, being succeeded as follows: C. A. Harris to June, 1874; A. Babcock, to June 1877; C. A. Harris, to June, 1878; A. Babcock, to June, 1880; A. B. Harris, to June, 1882. The present W. M. is A. Babcock. There were thirteen charter members; the present membership (October, 1882,) is sixty-seven. F. D. Bosworth died Dec. 19th, 1881. The lodge has also lost two other members by death, Z. Bailey and J. P. Campbell. Meetings are held in Masonic hall in the Sieh block, on the first Tuesday evening on or after the full moon. The lodge is in a prosperous condition.

THE V. A. S. FRATERNITY, NO. 101,

of New Hampton, was instituted in July, 1882, with the following officers: I. K. Gardner, Rector; H. H. Potter, Vice-Rector; George E. Stowe, Scribe; W. L. Darrow, Questor; John A. Ryon, Usher; J. T. Ferguson, Speculator. The membership is about 25, and meetings are held in H. H. Potter's office, on the first Tuesday evening in each month.

THE CHICKASAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

was organized in 1859, with W. E. Beach president, H. Gurley secretary, C. O. Case treasurer. The executive committee was composed of one member from each organized township, as follows; J. A. Sawin, Deerfield; S. W. Byers, Washington; H. Cook, Obispo; Thomas Staples, Stapleton; Fred Padden, Fredericksburg; L. J. Young, Dayton; Hiram Bailey, Richland; William Tucker, Chickasaw; John Bird, Bradford; J. H. Powers, New Hampton. Subsequently J. H. Powers was elected president, which office he still holds. The object of the society is to collect and preserve historical facts with reference to Chickasaw county.

## W. C. T. U.

This society was organized August 26th, 1876, with about twenty members. The first officers were: Mrs. W. D. Gardner, president; Mrs. Lizzie Baldwin, Mrs. Eliza Marshall, Mrs. Mandana A. Silsbee, vice-presidents; Miss E. C. Stebbins, secretary; Mrs. H. C. Mapes, treasurer. Mrs. Hannah Cotant is the present president; Miss Stebbins, recording and corresponding secretary; Miss Abbie Powers, financial secretary; Mrs. I. H. Gurley, treasurer. This organization has done effective work, in the temperance cause, and holds itself in readiness at all times to respond to the call of the president to re-engage in the good work.

## I. O. G. T.

The Independent order of Good Templars has led a variegated existence in New Hampton, the first lodge having been organized in 1860, This lodge having demised, another was organized in 1867, which in turn yielded up the ghost, and on its ruins still another lodge was organized in 1876. At present there is no lodge of this order in New Hampton.

## THE AMENDMENT CLUB OF NEW HAMPTON

was organized in 1881, with about sixty members, and continues with about the same membership. Its primary object was to aid in securing the adoption of the constitutional prohibitory amendment. Its officers were:

Professor H. A. Simons, president; Mrs. C. E. Hagar, vice-president; E. P. Sheffield, secretary; O. B. Sherman, treasurer. This organization prosecuted a vigorous campaign, and did effective work, the county being carried for the amendment by a decided majority, as will be found to be recorded elsewhere.

## THE COUNTY POOR FARM.

At the election held in October, 1871, a tax of two mills on the dollar was voted to be levied, for the purpose of purchasing and stocking a poor farm. The total vote on the proposition was 1,438; 1003, for, and 435 against.

During the June term, 1872, the board of supervisors reported that after spending three days in inspecting various farms, they had purchased a poor farm located as follows: on the south half of the southeast quarter of section twenty-four, and the north half of the northeast quarter of section twenty-five, township ninety-five,

west of range thirteen, containing 160 acres, on the town line road, two and one-half miles south of New Hampton. One hundred acres were "broke," there were a young orchard and a never failing stream of water. The purchase also included one reaper and mower combined, one horse rake, one plow, and one harrow. The farm was purchased of Don. A. Jackson, the price paid being \$20 per acre, or \$3,200 in all. A resolution was also adopted, providing for receiving bids for the erection of a suitable building.

At a special session held October 7th, 1872, a contract was awarded A. W. Utter, New Hampton, for the erection of a county poor farm building, for \$1,360.80, six hundred dollars of which was to be paid down, the balance on the completion of the building.

#### CEMETARY ASSOCIATION.

The officers of this association are: H. Gurley, president; G. A. Hamilton, secretary; D. A. Jackson treasurer. The association was organized about the year 1861. The cemetary grounds are located in the southwestern part of town, are handsomely laid out and well fenced.

#### COURT HOUSE BUILDING.

The habitat of the county officers at various times in the early history of the county, has been detailed at sufficient length elsewhere. The records of the June meeting, 1865, give the following details concerning the first building erected, especially for county purposes. At this meeting the following proceedings were had in relation to the erection of a county building:

Resolved, That Palmer of Jacksonville, Haslam of Dayton, and Woodbridge of Bradford, be a committee to enter into an agreement with, and if practicable make a contract with any responsible parties, for the erection of a county building, according to the plan and specifications now on file in the office of the clerk of the board. And if they deem changes or additions necessary, to stipulate for the same to be paid out of the county funds, but in no case to exceed \$500.00 for such last mentioned purpose.

Resolved, That said committee be empowered to offer the contractor an interest of ten per cent. payable out of the county funds on sums due for the erection of said building, and payable, out of the swamp land fund, until said fund shall be received by the county, and paid over to said contractor or his order.

Resolved, That the committee report their doings in the premises, together with a copy of any contract they may enter into for the action of the board.

J. K. KRONINGER.

This contract entered into on this 5th day of June, A. D. 1865, by and between Chickasaw county, state of Iowa, of the first part and J. H. Powers of the second part, witnesseth: that the said party of the second part agrees to erect and finish according to the specifications now on file in the office of the board of supervisors, a county building the work to be done in the style of the work done on the Congregational church in New Hampton, and the weather work to be of good pine lumber; the building to be erected in a good, workmanlike manner, finished inside and out and painted with two coats of paint of white lead or zinc, said building to be plastered and complete for use, the seating used being the seats now owned by the country for county purposes. The walls of the building to be double plastered by lathing and plastering between the studding; the vault to be square as platted and the entrance to the same being under the stairs and to have double doors of boiler iron, one opening inside and one outward, with good iron hinges and iron fastenings for the same, and the walls of said vault to be at least sixteen inches thick with an opening in the same, and at least the outer wall to be of brick or stone. Said building to rest upon a good substantial stone foundation in height similar to the one under the Congregational meeting house in New Hampton; said building to be completed on or before the 26th day of November A. D. 1865.

And the party of the first part agrees to pay the said party of the second part, for the erection of said building as above described the following sums, and on the conditions and terms to wit:

Eight hundred and forty dollars (\$840) paid down in cash.

Five hundred dollars (\$500) to be paid when the building is raised, said payment to be made by an order on the funds in, or to come into the possession of the country as "swamp land funds," with interest thereon payable out of the country funds at ten per cent. per annum payable annually, until the county shall

receive money from the United States as said "swamp land funds" and until the same is paid the said J. H. Powers, or his order;

Five hundred dollars (\$500,) when the building shall be enclosed payable on the conditions, and in the manner above stated; and eleven hundred and sixty dollars (\$1,160,) payable as the foregoing, out of the said swamp land fund when the building is completed; and G. W. Butterfield, W. E. Beach and W. B. Grant shall be a committee to examine, and if found complete according to this contract, to accept said building from the hands of the contractor, previous to his receiving his last payment

And it is further stipulated that the said J. H. Powers enter into bonds running to the county, in the sum of thirty-five hundred dollars, with surety to be approved by the clerk of the board of supervisor, F. D. Bosworth and A. E. Bigelow, before he shall be entitled to draw any of said money. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 6th day of June A. D. 1865.

WM. PALMER,  
WM. HASLAM,  
E. D. WOODBRIDGE,

we being appointed a committee to let contract for building county building: to approved by the board.

J. H. POWERS.  
HIRAM BAILEY.  
Chairman Board Supervisors.

---

Your committee to whom was referred a resolution in reference to the erection of county building would respectfully report:

1st. We would respectfully recommend that the building be double plastered and painted inside and out.

2d. We would recommend that the accompanying contract be adopted and approved.

3d. We would recommend that to meet the first payment the county hire of the school fund five hundred dollars.

4th We would recommend that the clerk of the board of supervisors be authorized to issue to the contractor warrants for



the several sums due on said contract as they became due, drawing on the several funds as set forth in the contract.

WM. PALMER,

WM. HASLAM,

E. D. WOODBRIDGE\*

The third recommendation being amended so that instead of hiring "five hundred dollars school fund," the clerk to issue ten county warrants in sums of \$50 each.

The yeas and nays were called on adoption, and resulted as follows: yeas 11, all the members present voting in the affirmative the contract and report were adopted.

J. H. Powers filed his bond June 7th 1865, for faithful performance of contract for building, which was approved.

The building erected in pursuance of the above contract was made to answer the purpose of a court house until Friday, March 26th 1880, at 9 o'clock on which night the building, was discovered to be on fire. It was completely destroyed by the flames, and in consequence of the county being thus left without a court house the unsuccessful attempt to remove the county seat to Nashua, detailed elsewhere, ensued. Steps looking to the erection of a new court house were soon taken, resulting eventually in the erection of the present commodious and handsome brick structure with the smaller brick building attached.

At the April meeting of the board of supervisors, 1880 the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, that the chairman of the board of supervisors be authorized and instructed to secure plans and probable cost of a suitable court house, with the understanding, that the architect furnishing the plans that shall be finally adopted by the county, shall receive a reasonable compensation for his services as an architect and that the chairman shall be restricted to an expense not exceeding \$50 in making said inquiry and furnishing plans.

In June, 1881, the citizens of New Hampton proposed to the board of supervisors to complete a court house, the architects estimate of the cost of which was \$10,342, on condition that the county appropriate \$5,000 toward building the same and that the board make an informal selection of the plan proposed, there being others plans presented to the board. The plans for a court house

approved by the board at the June session, were those of Louis Brown, an architect of New Hampton.

At the November term; 1880, the board adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, by the board of supervisors of Chickasaw county, Iowa, that; whereas New Hampton having pledged five thousand dollars towards the erection of a court house as near the site of the old court house in New Hampton as may be, and having given a bond for the payment of the full amount, the same is hereby accepted, and we order that five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be appropriated for the purpose of finishing said court house, and no contract will be let unless the contractor will accept the bond of New Hampton at its face.

At the January session, 1881, the plan and bid of Louis Brown, for \$10,000, was accepted and Mr. Brown appeared and duly entered into a contract with the county. The structure was completed during the summer. and was ready for occupancy in the early autumn of 1882.

#### CHICKASAW COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The first agricultural society in Chickasaw county was organized at Jacksonville in September, 1857. A constitution was adopted and election of officers held at the hotel, then kept by Hazard Green. The following officers were elected: Hazard Green, president; John Bird, vice-president; J. H. Powers, secretary; Hiram Bailey, treasurer. There was also an executive committee for each township, as follows: S. W. Byers, Washington; J. H. Dickens, Obispo; Thomas Staples, Stapleton; Fred Padden, Fredericksburg; Hiram Bailey, Richland; Daniel York, Dayton; A. G. Harris, Deerfield; William Tucker, Chickasaw; John Bird, Bradford. A fair was held at New Hampton in 1858, under the auspices of this organization, J. H. Powers delivering the address.

The first regular organization of an agricultural society in Chickasaw county, in pursuance of the state law upon the subject, will be found to be detailed below, as taken from the records of the society:

The records of the society show, that "at a large and enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of Chickasaw county, held at New Hampton on the 14th day of April, A. D. 1860, the propriety of organizing an agricultural society was thoroughly discussed and agreed upon, and the 28th day of April, following was designated as the

time, and New Hampton the place, at which such organization should be effected."

At the time specified, a large number of the county's best farmers, mechanics and business men, met and adopted a preamble and constitution. The following is the preamble:

"WHEREAS, It is deemed expedient that an agricultural society should be organized in Chickasaw county, in such manner as to become a body corporate under general law of the state of Iowa, relating to the creation of corporations: Therefore, It is resolved, this 28th day of April, one thousand, eight hundred and sixty, that Hiram Bailey, Jas. E. Yaunce, R. H. Way, William Tucker, Patrick Galligan, Gideon Gardner, J. A. Rice, T. P. Vokes, M. B. Taylor, with their present and future associates and successors, are hereby constituted a body corporate, to continue twenty years, under the following constitution:"

Article 1st, recites: "This Association shall be styled the 'Chickasaw county Agricultural Society;' its object shall be the improvement of agriculture, horticulture, mechanics, arts, rural and domestic economy."

The officers were to consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and one director from each township in the county, they together, or eight of their number, constituting a quorum for the transaction of business

"Article 3d. The regular annual meeting of this society shall be held at the time of the annual fair, which shall be fixed by the board of directors, and shall take place during the month of September or October, in each year; at which time the officers shall be chosen, by ballot, and shall serve one year, and until their successors are elected and qualified."

Other articles follow, prescribing the duties of the officers, etc.; "the principal place of business shall be at the county seat, and no capital is required, other than the sums contributed annually by the members, the amount received from the state, and the proceeds of annual exhibitions, which can only be invested in the grounds and fixtures, necessary to accommodate the society, or other legitimate objects thereof.

Provisions were made for the holding of annual fairs, at such times and place as shall be designated by the board of directors. Other regulations were prescribed; provision for membership and the amount members shall pay were made, as also the conditions

for forfeiture of membership. The matters of establishing premium lists, agreeing upon the rules governing the fairs, limiting competition and awarding committees, were also attended to. The board was authorized to enact such by-laws and rules, not inconsistent with the constitution, as may be deemed necessary for the good of the society, and the final article provided that "this constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the majority of the members present, and voting at any regular meeting."

"Thus nine persons have associated themselves as a body corporate, to continue twenty years, under the laws of the state of Iowa, thereby giving legal existence to the 'Chickasaw county Agricultural Society.' Fifty other persons attached their names to the constitution, thereby becoming members and share-holders in said society."

The following officers were then elected: Hiram Bailey, president; J. A. Rice, vice-president; M. B. Taylor, secretary; E. W. Davis, treasurer. One director from each of the twelve townships was also elected.

At a meeting of the directors, held on the 4th day of June, 1860, it was agreed to hold the first annual fair on the 27th and 28th days of September following, and a premium list was published in the New Hampton Courier and the Cedar Valley News, the latter paper being printed at Bradford. This list was published several weeks, and every effort was made to ensure the success of the undertaking. The society having no grounds, the directors advertised for sealed proposals for holding the fair, from the several localities in the county, which being presented at the time specified in the advertisement, the directors accepted, the proposals from the citizens of New Hampton, and located the grounds at that place for the first exhibition.

The exhibition, in the various departments, was much better than had been expected, especially in the vegetable and fine art departments. There were in all 239 entries. The entries for competition in field crops were accompanied with written statements of the mode of culture, etc., (agreeably to the requirements of the society), and also samples of grain. Below is the statement of the corn crop, and the result.

"Method of raising corn, presented at the first annual fair of

the Chickasaw county Agricultural Society, by J. P. Bailey: 'I plowed the ground (grove land, and never plowed before), about five inches deep, and planted about the 15th day of May, three and one-third by three and two-thirds feet apart; four to six grains in hill; cultivated with double-shovel plow twice each way, and hoed twice thoroughly. Seed, Ohio Yellow Dent. Yield 272 bushels of ears per acre, thoroughly packed, and heaped as long as it would lay on. Grain and land measured by C. A. Stuart.

J. P. BAILEY."

Mr. Hazzard Green, "one of the most scientific farmers of our county," delivered an address on the afternoon of the second day; "it was highly interesting and instructive."

The second annual fair was held at New Hampton, 2d, 3d, and 4th, 1861. The weather was cold and rainy; "consequently the fair was not a very good one, and yet it was not a failure."

It was judged best not to hold a fair in 1862, "for various reasons, the greatest of which was the call for volunteers for the union army, which was being so nobly responded to by the 'ranks,' of our industrial classes, that no time could be well given to the holding of a fair."

The third annual fair was held at New Hampton, October 6th and 7th, 1863. "The occasion drew together a large number of our citizens, on the second day, and an interest was manifested beyond what the society had expected. We have no grounds and no debt."

The fourth annual fair was held at New Hampton, under many disadvantages, September 20th and 21st, 1864. Whole number of entries, 278; number of members, eighty; amount of premiums awarded, \$110; received for sale of tickets at door of exhibition, \$16.45.

The fifth annual fair came off as advertised, September 20th and 21st, 1875. Many causes contributed to decrease the interest, "among which may be mentioned the fact that the society failed to pay all the premiums awarded at the previous year's fair, and this single instance was a great drawback. Whole number of entries, 221; receipts from memberships, \$72; receipts at door of hall,, \$15.50.

At the close of this fair a meeting of members was held at the school house in New Hampton, and after the election, the follow-

ing resolution was offered by Buel Sherman and unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That we raise one thousand dollars by subscription, for the purpose of purchasing and improving permanent fair grounds for the benefit of the Chickasaw county Agricultural Society, and that each director of the society be authorized to solicit and collect subscriptions for such purpose."

"On motion it was resolved that the directors solicit subscriptions in their respective townships in amounts from five dollars to twenty-five dollars. Any individual paying five dollars to be entitled to a certificate of membership for six years; ten dollars to constitute a membership for thirteen years, and twenty-five dollars to constitute a life membership."

At the meeting of the board of directors January, 3d, 1866, a committee of three was appointed to confer with the citizens of New Hampton, and to ascertain the amount they would pay toward grounds for the society, on condition that the grounds be fitted up in good condition by the society, for permanent fair grounds. This committee, which consisted of Buel Sherman, Charles McCulloch and Hiram Bailey, was instructed to report the result of their conference at the next meeting of the board.

At the next meeting, held February 6th, 1866, Mr. Sherman reported that no conference had been held, and requested that the committee be discharged, and that a committee consisting of three residents of New Hampton, be appointed in its stead. The request was granted, and Gideon Gardner, Charles McCulloch and Harrison Gurley were appointed as the new committee, and requested to act promptly and report to the secretary at as early a day as practicable.

July 7th, 1866, Charles P. Ridenour and wife of Ulster county, New York, executed a warranty deed of the northeast quarter, northeast quarter of the southeast quarter, section 7-95-12—to the Chickasaw county Agricultural Society.

The sixth annual fair took place September 19th, 20th and 21st, 1866. "It was not a great success, yet it was very far from being a failure." Receipts for yearly memberships, \$63; at door of hall, \$17.

January 9th, 1867, Elizabeth and M. M. Utley, of Chickasaw

county, executed a warranty deed to a certain tract of land, known and described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 8-95-12; thence east sixteen rods; thence south forty rods; thence west sixteen rods; thence north forty rods to place of beginning; containing four acres of land, to the Chickasaw county Agricultural Society.

September 11th, 1867, Dr. H. M. Mixer, president of the society, published in the New Hampton Courier an address to the farmers of Chickasaw county.

The seventh annual fair occurred September 25th, 26th and 27th, 1867, and was in all respects a success.

The following notice the secretary caused to be published in the New Hampton Courier and the Nashua Post, January 11th, 1868:

"A vote of the board of supervisors at a former session placed \$400 to the credit of the Chickasaw county Agricultural Society conditioned upon the raising, by the society, of a like amount. Their success has been commensurate with the zeal with which they have prosecuted the work. They have raised, not \$400, but \$600, and the board of supervisors have just returned over to us the sum of \$400, as per previous resolution. During the coming year this money is to be expended in fencing and improving your fair grounds. The manner in which it shall be expended concerns intimately every member of the society. The board of directors, in view of the interests at stake, have decided upon calling a special meeting of the society, to be held at New Hampton on Friday, January 24th, 1868, at 1 o'clock P. M. It is hoped that every number of the society, and all who desire to become such, will interest themselves in the matter, and be present. By order of the board.

L. J. YOUNG, Secretary."

At the special meeting in pursuance of the above call, a motion to fence the fair grounds was carried unanimously.

In pursuance of a motion by L. H. Weller, a building committee was appointed consisting of H. M. Mixer, I. H. Minkler and M. Burgit, and the executive committee was instructed to make such improvements, on the fair grounds, as the finances of the society will warrant, after the completion of the fence.

The total cost of material, fencing, and putting the grounds in condition for the eighth annual fair, was \$1,238.65. "Add to this

\$180 for grounds, and we have a total cost of \$1,418.65, the actual cost of the grounds as they are now, September 30th, 1858."

The eighth annual fair was held September 23d, 24th, and 25th, 1868. About 2,000 people were in attendance.

At an adjourned meeting February 10th, 1869, measures were taken to secure the erection of a hall on the grounds, and the executive committee was empowered to borrow funds, not exceeding \$100, for this purpose. The premium list for the fair of 1869 was published in pamphlet form, by "Andy Felt, of the Nashua Post," without expense to the society. A floral hall, 16x33 feet, was erected in time for this fair.

The ninth annual fair was held October 6th, 7th and 8th, 1869. "A very good display of animals and articles in almost every class. Buel Sherman took the lead in short-horns or Durhams. E. R. Shankland, of Dubuque, exhibited about forty varieties of apples. The exhibition of his fruit alone was worth thousand of dollars to Chickasaw county, and it is to be hoped that our farmers will take more interest in fruit raising hereafter; for this exhibition plainly shows what can be done in this line."

"Considerable interest is manifested among those having machinery on exhibition, and large crowds gathered around them to witness the trials given the different kinds of machinery."

At a meeting of the society June 14th, 1870, "by a vote, the society opens the doors to the whole world, to compete for the premiums offered; and the citizens of the adjoining counties are especially invited to participate with us."

Premiums were offered for the best and fastest trotters; also to the best base ball club.

The tenth annual fair occurred September 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th. Three hundred and eighteen entries were made. D. W. Adams, of Waukon who exhibited sixty-eight varieties of apples, delivered the address, on the subject, "Fruit." The fair was financially a success, the total receipts being \$289.80. "The best of feeling prevailed during the whole fair, and every person went home feeling proud, that so good an institution as an agricultural society, was fully and firmly established in Chickasaw county."

At the January meeting, 1871, a former motion was thus modi-



fied: "that Chickasaw county open her doors to competition to all counties in Iowa, which extend the like courtesy to her."

September 19th, 20th and 21st, 1871, were the days on which the eleventh annual fair was held. Over 400 entries were made. The exhibition of stock was good, showing improvements over former years.

The twelfth annual fair, held September 17th, 18th and 19th, 1872, "was considered a success." There were more than 400 entries, and the exhibits in all departments was good.

In June, 1883, the fee for life memberships was reduced to ten dollars each.

The thirteen annual fair was held September 10th, 11th and 12th, 1873, and was in every way successful.

By a constitutional amendment, at the January meeting, 1874, the time for holding the annual fair was fixed upon the last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in September of each year. Other amendments were also made.

Stormy weather interfered greatly with the success of the fourteenth annual fair, held September 23d and 24th, 1874, there being no fair on the last day.

The record book of the society contains no account of any of the annual fairs since that of 1874, but it is apparent, from the minutes of the meetings, that fairs have been held regularly each year, with varying success, but in the main satisfactorily, showing continued improvement in stock raising and in all departments of husbandry. The fair of 1882 was in every respect highly successful, and in addition to the other attractions, was characterized by a grand soldiers' reunion, which took place on the last day. Gov. Buren R. Sherman delivered the address to the soldiers, and Rev. C. A. Marshall the annual address. At the March meeting of the society, 1881, it was announced that the time for which the Chickasaw county Agricultural Society was incorporated, had expired, by reason of limitation, whereupon articles of re-incorporation were immediately proposed and adopted, providing for a continuance of the society for a period of ninety-nine years. At the following December meeting "the society as re-incorporated adopt and be governed by the rules and regulations as laid down for the government of the former association of this society."

The officers of the society from year to year, have been as follows:

1860.

Hiram Bailey, president; J. A. Rice, vice-president; M. B. Taylor, secretary; E. W. Davis, treasurer. One director for each township has also been elected each year.

1861.

Hiram Bailey, president; A. H. Strong, vice-president; M. B. Taylor, secretary; E. W. Davis, treasurer.

1862.

Hiram Bailey, president; J. E. Shepard, vice-president; H. Gurley, secretary, A. D. Kinne, treasurer.

1863.

Same as in former year, with the substitution of E. W. Davis instead of Kinne as treasurer.

1864.

Buel Sherman, president; C. D. Johnson, vice-president; B. E. Morton, secretary; J. H. Powers, treasurer.

1865.

R. B. Schoonover, president; George McCaughey, vice-president; L. J. Young, secretary; Charles McCulloch, treasurer.

1866.

Same as in former year.

1867.

Dr. H. M. Mixer, president; E. W. Davis, vice-president; L. J. Young, secretary; Charles McCulloch, treasurer.

1868.

H. M. Mixer, president; Hiram Bailey, vice-president; secretary and treasurer as before.

1869.

Same as in 1868.

1870.

Buel Sherman, president; J. U. Mixer, vice-president; secretary and treasurer as before.

1871.

J. U. Mixer, president; Buel Sherman, vice-president; secretary and treasurer as before.

1872.

George McCaughey, president; J. U. Mixer, vice-president; secretary and treasurer as before.

1873.

O. O. Poppleton, president; George McCaughey vice-president; secretary and treasurer as before.

1874.

J. F. McCallum, president; Dr. W. S. Pitts, vice-president; sec-

1875.

retary and treasurer as before.

1876.

F. D. Bosworth, president; Cornelius Carr, vice-president; J. C. Johnson, secretary; John McLaren, treasurer.

1877.

H. M. Mixer, president; William Tucker, vice-president; J. C. Johnson, secretary; W. E. Beach, treasurer.

1878.

H. M. Mixer, president; J. F. Babcock, vice-president; J. C. Johnson, secretary; W. E. Beach, treasurer.

1879.

Same as in 1877.

1880.

Same as before.

1881.

J. F. Babcock, president; John Dayton, vice-president; G. A. Hamilton, secretary; H. Gurley, treasurer.

1882.

J. Kenyon, president; H. M. Mixer, vice-president; G. A. Hamilton, secretary; H. Gurley, treasurer.

1883.

Same as in 1881.

1884.

F. Markle, president; M. J. Peck, vice-president; S. J. Kenyon, secretary; J. A. Ryon, treasurer.

The following is a list of the life members of the society:

Arnold, Geo. B.	Mixer, H. M.
Burgit, M.	Moloney, M.
Bosworth, F. D.	Mixer, J. U.
Babcock, James F.	McLaren, John

Benedict, J. H.  
Bailey, Hiram  
Bigelow, A. E.  
Bailey, H. H.  
Babcock, A. W.  
Cady, Walter  
Clough, Cornelius  
Churchill, L. M.  
Carr, Cornelius  
Cottrell, J. D.  
Colt, Wm. I.  
Carleton, J. R.  
Dixon, G. L.  
Dane, Frank  
Davidson, John  
Dana, O.  
Dixon, John  
Davison, L. B.  
Dayton, John  
Edington, P. A.  
Edwards, W. R.  
Fitch, H. L.  
Foley, John  
Fitch, E. S.  
Gurley, H.  
Gilliland, J. M.  
Gardner, I. K.  
Gillette, M. N.  
Green, John A.  
Gardner, Gideon  
Gurney, J. H.  
Hurd, W. E.  
Herrick, J. D.  
Hockspier, J.  
Iverson, Thomas  
Jack, David  
Johnson, J. C.  
Jackson, D. A.  
Judge, Myron

Martin, Seth  
McCaughey, Geo.  
Mitchell, J. W.  
Markle, Fred.  
McMullen, F. A.  
McHugh, John  
Mullen, Chris.  
Minkler, I. H.  
Mabie, Charles  
Morsch, F.  
Mapes, C. R.  
Nicholas, P.  
Olmstead, E. N.  
Pierce, R. P.  
Pepper, Dan.  
Powers, J. H.  
Peck, M. J.  
Paulson, J. A.  
Piehn, Fred.  
Poppleton, O. O.  
Row, Samuel  
Reich, John  
Stafford, W. D.  
Simmons, J. J.  
Sheldon, R. O.  
Shaver, Hiram  
Snyder, J. W.  
Siminick, Fred.  
Stebbins, J. B.  
Sewell, Edson  
Schulte, T. H.  
Sherman, Buel  
Silsbee, N. S.  
Smith, L. M.  
Sherman, O. B.  
Swennumson, S.  
Scheutz, John  
Sewell, Joseph  
Stapher, C. H.

Kepler, Hugh  
Kress, John  
Kreiger, John  
Kenyon, J. R.  
Kenyon, S. J.  
Knight, A.  
Linderman, W. H.  
Larson, Andrew  
Lilge, Charles  
Lynch, J. M.  
Mapes, H. W.  
Meyer, John

Shortley, Robert  
Sheffield, E. P.  
Tucker, Wm.  
Tisdale, G. J.  
Utley, M. M.  
Wight, A. H.  
Warner, C. J.  
Watts, Isaac  
Warriner, C.  
Wheeler, C. A.  
Young, James



## CHAPTER X.

---

FREDERICKSBURG TOWNSHIP; LOCATION; EARLY SETTLEMENT; ORGANIZATION; VILLAGE OF FREDERICKSBURG; SCHOOLS; CHURCHES; SOCIETIES; ETC.

---

The sketches of Fredericksburg township and the village of Fredericksburg, which follow, were written from notes obtained from William S. Pitts, M. D., of Fredericksburg, who has gone to much labor and trouble to obtain accurate and exhaustive information, for a detailed history of the first thirty years of his township, which he contemplates publishing in an appropriate form at a not distant day. For his kindness and courtesy in the premises, Dr. Pitts, has the sincere thanks of the editor and publisher of this work.

Fredericksburg township is in the southeastern corner of Chickasaw county. Its boundaries are: on the north, Stapleton township; south, Bremer county; east, Fayette county; west, Dresden township. The township contains thirty-six sections of land and one-half of sections 12 and 13, 94-12, set off from Dresden township. With the exception of two small groves of natural timber, it is a township of prairie land. Its physical conformation is an

undulating plain, with a general inclination from east to west. The soil is excellent, land arable and water courses abundant.

Prior to its organization as a township, the first election for precinct officers—this township being then included in what was known as Yankee precinct—was held at the residence of T. P. Vokes. Thomas Staples was the first assessor, Osgood Gowan road supervisor and C. C. Stone his deputy, for this locality. This was in the year 1855. In 1857, O. H. P. Searle and D. B. Hanan were elected justices of the peace, being the first to hold this office in this locality.

At present H. B. Carpenter and George Bishop are the justices, Peter Case, clerk, and R. W. Kidder, assessor of Fredericksburg township. The township was organized as an independent school district in 1871, and so remains.

Frederick Padden, of whom more detailed mention is made in the sketch of the village, was the first permanent settler in the township, in honor of whose prænomen both the township and the village were named. Padden settled with his family on the present village site, September 21st, 1854, and was during that year the only settler in the township.

In 1855 a number of settlers came in, among whom may be mentioned the following: Samuel Marsh of Ohio, came in April, and located on the southwest quarter of section 9, 94-11. He erected a shanty and broke ten acres of land, which he planted to corn in May, raising the first field of corn in the township. His family came in 1856. In 1859, he went to California, but returned in 1861, and is still living on the farm where he first located. His wife, Julia, died February 20th, 1883.

Thomas P. Vokes came in May, 1855, and entered land on the northwest quarter of section 6, 94-11, where he still resides.

June 3d, 1855, William Case and family located on the southwest quarter of section 4, 94-11. James Potter, of Pennsylvania, came in July of this year. He first built a shanty on the village site, and afterwards located on the northwest quarter of section 19, 94-11, where he has ever since continued to reside. In the same year Charles Connor, of Illinois located on the southwest quarter of section 31, 94-11. In September, John S. Marr, of New York, located on the northwest quarter of section 31, 94-11, where he still resides. John I. Quackenbush, afterwards justice of

the peace and a well-known pioneer, located in the township in this year. Quackenbush died in 1864. John Dayton, of Ohio, came in December, 1855, locating on the northwest quarter, of the northeast quarter of section 10, 94-11.

By the spring of 1856, the tide of immigration had set in steadily, from that time the population of the township continued to increase with gratifying rapidity.

The question as to who were the first couple married in the township, is to some extent in controversy, the bridegroom being either Charles Zwick or George Fountain, with the probability strongly in favor of Zwick, whose marriage (to whom is not ascertained) occurred in 1857.

The precedence of births is also a mooted question, but impartial investigation indicates that the first child born in the township was Rosa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Padden, born in the early part of June, 1856; next in order was Emilia, daughter of Frederick and Julia Padden, and third was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Vokes—both of which latter were also born in June, 1856. The death of Emilia Padden was the first to occur in the township.

The township contains but one cemetery, which is located about two and one-quarter miles east of the village, and is called the east cemetery in contra-distinction to the west cemetery just over the line in Dresden township.

The first school house occupied in the township was erected in the village, and is mentioned in its proper place. There are nine school houses now in the township, well built and adequately furnished, at each of which there is a fair attendance, the schools of Fredericksburg township comparing very favorably with those of any other section of the county.

The township of Fredericksburg is well settled with a progressive and intelligent type of immigration, and it would indeed be difficult to find a more exemplary class of citizens or a better "neighborhood" than that comprised within its borders. Further and additional particulars are necessarily commingled with the historical account of the village of Fredericksburg, which is herewith presented.



## THE VILLAGE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

The village of Fredericksburg takes its name from that of Frederick Padden, its first settler and founder, and by whom it was laid out in 1856, Padden and Bloxham being the original town proprietors. It is located on sections 4 and 18 in 94-11, and 12 and 13 in 94-12.

The first house was built by Frederick Padden on lot 4, block 18, in October, 1854.

Lewis Padden built the first store in the autumn of 1855; Emory Combs was the first blacksmith; J. V. Carpenter the first shoemaker, and George Hillson the first wagonmaker.

Frederick Padden built the first saw mill in 1856. It was run by steam power, was destroyed by fire in 1857, was rebuilt in 1858, and again burned in January 1862. This mill was located on the bank of Plum creek on block 5.

The Fredericksburg Cheese company opened a factory on Plum creek in May 1875. It was a stock company, and erected a building at a cost of \$1,600. Oliver Briggs, of Elgin, Illinois, was the superintendent, and H. A. Simons, now of New Hampton, was secretary and treasurer. This company made cheese of excellent quality for three successive seasons, when they ceased operations, and the Wapsie creamery was opened in the same building in the autumn of 1880, by Messrs. Udall and Davis, of Jessup, Iowa, who, after a few months, sold to Christopher Haskett. Haskett continued the business until September, 1882, when he sold to Messrs. Kipp and Harris, of New Hampton, by whom the creamery is now operated, its business being extensive and remunerative.

In October, 1882, Loren Padden opened a creamery near his residence, which he still continues to operate.

Jerome Padden opened an extensive brickyard in 1876 on land east of the school house. This yard was only worked one year during which 200,000 brick of fair quality were made.

The first school in Fredericksburg was taught during the summer of 1857, in a pole shanty erected by Edwin Cain, and which stood southeast of where the Baptist church now stands. Miss Anna Bishop was the teacher.

The graded schools of Fredericksburg were opened in 1866.

The following are the names of the successive principals to the present time:

Nan M. Warren, summer of 1866.

D. F. Callender, winter of 1866-7.

C. S. Haywood, winter of 1867-8.

Nan M. Warren, summer of 1868.

N. Austin, winter of 1868-9.

A. P. Fowler, summer of 1868-9.

W. W. Quivey, winter and spring of 1869-70.

Hattie Coryell, summer of 1870.

N. M. Warren, winter of 1870-1.

Maggie McFarland, summer of 1871, to, and including summer of 1872.

Kate M. Warren, winter of 1872-3.

H. C. Hudson, summer of 1873.

C. A. Lyman (taught only part of the term which was finished by Agnes Howe), winter of 1873-4.

B. B. Potter, summer of 1874.

Maggie McFarland, winter of 1874-5, to, and including winter of 1876-7.

J. C. Smith, summer of 1877.

H. A. Simons, winter of 1877-8 to and including summer of 1879.

Agnes Howe, winter, spring and summer of 1879-80.

Minnie Sherman, winter of 1880-81.

Lillie Scales, summer of 1881.

Alfred Martin, winter of 1881-2.

Mrs. Lillie Steadman, summer of 1882.

H. S. Adney, winter of 1882-3.

The present school building was erected in 1865, by Frederick Padden, at a cost of \$1,000. Additional improvements made have increased the total cost to about \$1,600. There are two rooms, one 30x30, the other 30x20 feet in dimensions.

The first sermon preached in Fredericksburg, was by Rev. S. M. Prentiss in Frederick Padden's hotel (the Fountain house), in the front room, May 19th, 1855. Mr. Prentiss was a Baptist clergyman.

A preliminary meeting, looking to the organization of the First

Baptist church of Fredericksburg, was held June 3d, 1860, and all present united in a call for recognition from the churches of this denomination. Those present at this meeting were: The pastor Rev. E. G. O. Groat, T. S. M. Flowers, Gilbert Page, James Lovesee, Jonathan Russell, Mrs. Gilbert Page, Mrs. T. S. M. Flowers, Mrs. Jonathan Russell, Mrs. Billings and Mrs. Munger. Mr. Flowers was made secretary of the society. July 7th, 1860, the society held its second meeting, and letters of recognition were read from the following churches: Fredericka, Fairbanks, Polk and Providence. This meeting was held in the small building which had previously been erected by a society of the United Brethern persuasion. The building had, in fact, been erected about the year 1858, but this organization was not of a sufficiently permanent nature to long survive. At this second meeting, then, recorded above, the organization of the First Baptist church of Fredericksburg was perfected. The following are the names of the pastors of the society in the order of this succession: E. G. O. Groat, Shadrach Sherman, G. W. Goodrich, M. E. Arkills, T. C. Briggs, William Simons, J. C. Abbott, M. H. Perry, J. N. Johnson, James Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell is the present pastor. The first deacon of the society was W. G. Eldret. Charles Mabry and C. W. Stickney are the present deacons. Mr. Mabry is the Sabbath school superintendent, the other officers of the Sabbath school being C. W. Stickney, assistant superintendent; W. S. Pitts, chorister: J. Mabry, secretary; Mrs. C. Mitchell, treasurer. Charles Mabry is also secretary of the church organization. The church edifice was erected in the spring of 1870, and was dedicated in July of that year. Its dimensions are 32x52 feet, the total cost being about \$2,800. The parsonage was purchased by the society in 1874 at a cost of \$450, and is located near the church.

The Methodist Episcopal church society of Fredericksburg is also in possession of a commodious edifice, 32x50 feet in dimensions, which was erected in 1875 at a cost of \$2,700. The first M. E. clergyman to preach in this section was Rev. C. M. Webster. Rev. W. P. Holbrook preached at Fredericksburg about the last of June, 1856. August 8th, 1856, he organized a class of the following ten members: George Hillson, Sarah Hillson, Alphens, Adams, Cornelia Adams, Catherine Marvin, Maria Gibbs, Lovina Padden, Hester Vokes, Jesse T. Appleburg. George Hillson was

the first-class leader. The pastors in regular order were: Elijah Kendall, Charles Hollis, J. L. Kirkpatrick, W. P. Holbrook, James Leslie, James Stout, Thomas More, Samuel J. Gossard, Reece Wolf, George Edmunds, Zelotes R. Ward, H. H. Hammond, Edwards Hoskyn, Philip E. Miller, J. R. Cameron, John Dawson B. D. Alden. Mr. Alden is the present pastor. In the early part of the conference year, 1864, a board, of trustees was organized, viz: Ebenezer Perry, president; George W. Adams, vice-president; Buel Sherman, secretary; Hiram Benedict, D. Berkstresser, J. P. Hartley. G. C. Cleghorn. This board purchased the residence, now the parsonage, of W. S. Pitts, paying therefor \$400. Buel Sherman is the present secretary, Leonard Nourse the present treasurer of the society, The church has also a large and flourishing Sabbath school.

A Presbyterian mission was organized at Fredericksburg in 1860, and continued about five years. L. R. Lockwood was the pastor.

Mount Horeb Lodge No. 333, A. F. and A. M., received its charter in June, 1875, having previously worked one year under dispensation. There were ten charter members. Its first officers were, W. S. Pitts, W. M.; Leonard Nourse, S. W.; S. H. Holcomb, J. W. The following is a complete list of the officers at date of present writing: S. H. Holcomb, W. M.; W. S. Pitts, S. W.; D. B. Nourse, J. W.; L. W. Pond, secretary; E. Cullens, treasurer, R. W. Pond, S. D.; George Bolton, J. D.; S. P. More, Tyler. The lodge has thirty members. and is in a prosperous condition. Meetings are held Wednesday evenings on or after each full moon, in Pitts and Warren's hall over Milo L. Sherman's store.

There have been various temperance organizations in Fredericksburg, all of which have proved to be of a more or less evanescent nature, save the Fredericksburg temperance society, which meets every fourth Sunday evening in the two churches alternately. The exercises are of a popular and beneficial nature, and the meetings are largely attended. The officers of the society are: W. S. Pitts, president; Milo L. Sherman, vice-president; William Brown, secretary; Mrs. B. D. Alden, treasurer.

J. V. Carpenter, Post No. 104, G. A. R., of the department of Iowa, was organized in November, 1882, and has already taken

rank as one of the live posts of the state. At the date of present writing (March, 1883,) there have been mustered into full membership forty-seven, and eight applications are on file. Fredericksburg township contributed largely to Chickasaw county's quota during the war of the rebellion, and the soldier element of the township is unusually large. Carpenter Post meets semi-monthly, on Saturday evenings, in Armory hall.

The following is the official roster: Milo L. Sherman, C.; H. B. Carpenter, S. V. C.; J. N. Coleman, J. V. C.; W. H. Grems, A.; J. Ellison, Q.; S. N. Brace, O. D.; J. H. Langdon, O. G. Rev. James Mitchell, Chaplain; H. A. Pond, S. M.; R. W. Kidder, Q. M. S.

The ladies aid societies in connection with both churches are active and efficient in promoting the objects of their organizations.

A feature of the organizations of the village was the church choir which was organized with W. S. Pitts as director in 1864, and which held rehearsals regularly every Sabbath afternoon for thirteen years. This choir became widely known in this section as one of the best church choirs in northern Iowa. The following persons comprised its membership: Sopranos—Miss Nan M. Warren, Mrs. Helen C. Kendall, Mrs. Elmira Mabry. Altos—Miss Nettie M. Warren, Mrs. Emily E. Dayton, Mrs. S. E. Ellis. Basses—Joseph H. Benedict, George H. Benedict, Allison Congdon, Abner Warren. Tenors—William S. Pitts, George Bishop. The first death among the membership of this choir, was that of Mrs. Kendall, who was first soprano at the time of her demise, November 18th, 1871.

Fredericksburg has an efficient cornet band, the successor to an equally excellent one, which latter was organized in the winter of 1865, and was called Pitts' Cornet band. The roster of this pioneer band was as follows:

W. S. Pitts, 1st Eb cornet.

A. J. Warner 2d Eb cornet.

Jerome Padden, 1st Bb cornet.

Joseph H. Benedict, 2d Bb cornet.

George Benedict, 1st Eb alto.

Charles Chapman, 2d Eb alto.

John H. Miller, Bb tenor.

E. N. Olmsted, Bb baritone.

M. W. Warren, Bb bass.

A. P. Fowler, Eb tuba.

M. L. Sherman, drummer.

This band was disorganized in 1870, and in the spring of 1878 the present band was organized under the name of the Fredericksburg cornet band. The following is its roster:

W. S. Pitts, 1st Eb cornet.

Robert Padden, 2d Eb cornet.

Watson Pond, 1st Bb cornet.

Frank Warren, 2d Bb cornet.

George Carpenter, 1st Eb alto.

Clarence Sherman, 2d Eb alto.

L. W. Pond, Bb tenor.

Jerome Padden, Bb baritone.

M. M. Padden, Eb tuba.

Lucius Steadman, snare drum.

M. L. Sherman, bass drum.

D. B. Hanan, the only attorney who has resided in Fredericksburg, came here in 1857, and about the year 1874 removed to New Hampton.

A Dr. Mack located here in the practice of medicine about the year 1858, and remained two years. He was not a regularly admitted physician however. Dr. John March, an electric physician came in 1860, and left in 1865.

The first regularly graduated physician to locate at Fredericksburg was Dr. E. H. Olmstead, who came in 1865, and practiced his profession here until 1872, when he removed to New Hampton, where he is still in practice.

Dr. W. S. Pitts was the next to locate in the village of Fredericksburg, where he continues to reside in the practice. He came in 1867.

The first hotel (subsequently known as the Fountain house) was erected by F. Padden in 1855, and after occupancy by various proprietors, ceased to be used as a hotel about 1870. The building is now occupied as a residence by Daniel Pond.

The present hotel the Julien House, was built by Padden in 1857, and is now owned and conducted by L. F. Howe.

The postoffice of Fredericksburg was established in 1856. Frederick Padden was the first postmaster, F. W. Barrow, deputy. Daniel Pond succeeded Padden, with Elisha Smith as deputy. Peter Case, the present postmaster, was appointed in 1860, and has held the position ever since. The office was made a money order office in 1882.

The village of Fredericksburg is not incorporated. It is very prettily located, and with its neat residences and advantageous surroundings, presents a very handsome appearance. Its population is not far from 300.

Among its pioneer merchants were: F. W. Barron, now a lumber dealer at Spirit Lake, Iowa; Elisha Smith, now in England; S. G. Merrian, now a resident of Nebraska, and J. H. Haskett, now a resident of Kansas. A. K. Warren, another pioneer business man, died in June, 1863. Frederick Padden died August 8th 1867.

At the present time the business of Fredericksburg is represented as follows: Milo L. Sherman, general merchandise; C. H. Clough, drug store; George W. Bolton, hardware; John Phillips, & Eli Gooldsbury, blacksmith; Hillson Brothers, wagon making and blacksmithing; Peter Case, groceries; L. W. Pond, harness; H. B. Carpenter, boots and shoes; Vail and Warren, axe-helve factory.

Among the preceding sketches of religious organizations, mention has not been made of the society of Dunkards, which owns a parsonage and forty acres of land three miles east and one mile south of the village of Fredericksburg. About twelve families are represented by this organization, of which Mark Lawler is the pastor.

A record of fires which have occurred in the village since its existence began, is as follows:

The saw mill owned by Frederick Padden was destroyed by fire in 1857, and the second mill erected on the same site was burned in January, 1862.

John H. Miller's saloon building, on the lot now occupied by the Baptist parsonage, was burned in the spring of 1870.

In the spring of 1872, J. V. Carpenter's residence was destroyed by fire.

The most disastrous fire that has visited the village occurred in February, 1877, when Padden Brothers' hardware store, Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Stone's millinery establishment, and Amaziah Smith's merchant tailoring establishment were destroyed with all their contents.

J. G. Haskett's store building, occupied by L. Padden as a drug and hardware store, burned in the spring of 1881.

In October, 1882, the Bolton building, occupied by Pomeroy and Co's. grocery store, was destroyed by fire.





## CHAPTER XI.

---

### STAPLETON TOWNSHIP; LOCATION; EARLY SETTLEMENT AND HISTORY; LAWLER; RISE AND PROGRESS; GREAT FIRES; GENERAL HISTORY.

---

#### STAPLETON TOWNSHIP.

Township 95 north, range 11 west, is the township of Stapleton, and contains thirty-six sections, the soil is good, although sandy in some places. Crane creek and two smaller ones traverse the township, which with a number of small affluents, all fringed with timber, make plenty those two items of good farming land, viz: wood and water.

The first settlement was made in 1850, by T. G. Staples, after whom the township was named; he settled on section 36, where he lived for many years; being the 1st postmaster in the township, at the P.O. called also after him. He afterwards went to Lawler, and after acting as "mine host" of a hotel, emigrated in December, 1882, to Missouri, where he now resides. Among the pioneers of this township, we find the names of Patk. Casey, James Casey, and two brothers by the name of Hill, who all came about the year 1855. It seems that the tide of emigration set in but slowly, in this part of

the county, for the next two years, but in 1857 it secured a new impetus, and from that date it has steadily grown with a healthy growth. We are credibly informed, that in 1855 there were but two houses within the bounds of what now constitutes the township, and also, that in the same year but 60 votes were cast within the four townships of Dresden, Fredricksburg, New Hampton and Stapleton. The first store in the township was kept by John Nicholas about the year 1857, and was located on what is now the farm of Mr. Menzes about one and a half miles east of where the town of Lawler now stands, and was the only stopping place on the road from Jacksonville and Waucoma, between those places.

The first account we find of anything, approaching to an organization, is an order, emanating from the county court, bearing date, March, 1855, directing, that the four townships now known as New Hampton, Dresden, Fredricksburg, Stapleton, then without names and simply designated by their number and range, be united for election purposes, and be known as the Yankee Settlement. However, at the April term of the county court, in the year 1857, an order was issued for the organization of township 95, range 11, as an independent township, and to be known as Stapleton. This was accordingly done, and the township organized on the basis it now occupies.

#### LAWLER

"At a meeting of the residents of the townships of Utica, Stapleton, Jacksonville and Fredericksburg, held in Stapleton, November 14th, 1868, of which H. B. Wood was chairman and W. D. Lawrence, Secy., a resolution was passed appointing E. Wetner a committee, to wait upon Mr. John Lawler, and ascertain the conditions, upon which the McGregor and Soux City railway would establish a depot, on the west side of Crane Creek, viz: west one-half of the south west quarter of section 4, township 95 range 11.

At the same meeting, on motion of B. F. Stinson, of Stapleton, a committee on subscription was appointed, consisting of Seth Martin, of Utica, S. Swennumson, of Jacksonville and J. G. Haskett, of Fredericksburg.

On motion, H. B. Wood, was also appointed to confer with John Lawler, with regard to blank subscriptions.

The above is the very earliest notice of what is now known as Lawler, and was taken from the New Hampton Courier of Nov. 27,

1868. The original proprietors of the town plat were, Patrick Lynch Mathias Konzen, Geo. Benz, Martin and Patrick Green and Peter Pitts, who resided in primitive log cabins on the site of the future town, and may said to be the pioneer settlers.

But, on the railroad locating a depot here, in July, 1869, suddenly, as if by magic, arose a town, whose proud pre-eminence, as the greatest shipping point for years, on this branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul railroad, is still remembered with pride by her citizens, and although now suffering from the effect of the many conflagrations, that have devastated it, still enjoys considerable prosperity.

Among the first buildings erected was a hotel, which the owner J. Nicholas, moved here, from Conover in the year 1869, and having built on considerable additions, called it the Nicholas Hotel; he, run it successfully until the year 1875, when it passed into the possession of Mr. Parker, who also added large additions, but it was destroyed by fire in the spring of 1876, and never rebuilt. Also the building, known as the American hotel, was moved to Lawler from Jacksonville, in the same year, by C. Bolton, after passing through the hands of Messrs. Hobart and King, it was kept from 1880, by T. G. Staples, who sold out and emigrated to Marysville, Missouri, in December, 1882. He was succeeded by W. E. Wisner, who now conducts it in a first-class manner, it being the only hotel in the place.

About the same time the first merchants came in and erected the necessary buildings to carry on their business, they were:

Green & Lovejoy, drugs and groceries.

Ed Casey, hardware.

Parkhurst & Barnes, dry goods.

Blake & Menz, groceries.

D. R. Kerby, hardware.

Jno. Lynch, general merchandise.

H. B. Lawrence, general merchandise.

D. G. Goodrich, agricultural implements.

James McKone, has the honor of being the first wagon maker, and Patrick Burns, the pioneer blacksmith. The first shoemaker who took upon himself the labor of looking after the "soles" of the Lawlerites, was H. Duryee, and A. I. Mason, Geo. Fisk, J. M. Cailiff and — Greenleaf, were the first carpenters; all these came in the fall of 1869.

In a small red building, in the northeast part of the town, in the summer of 1870, Mrs. Sullivan taught the first school, teaching in one small room, and residing in the balance of the house. Mrs. Frank Fletcher succeeded her, the following year, thus were instructed the earlier schools, but in 1871, a greater number of pupils, compelled the erection of larger and more convenient buildings. A frame school house was erected, containing two rooms, but was afterwards enlarged to four rooms, and now stands, quite an ornament to the town; the value being placed at \$4,000. Prof. Oscar A. McFarland is the present principal, and Miss Delia Conley, assistant. The enrollment of scholars has been, until within a year, as high as 160, but owing to the establishment of the school, presided over by the Sisters of the Presentation, the number has fallen off very largely, as quite a majority of the citizens are members of the Roman Catholic faith, who naturally patronize their own schools. The number enrolled now is about sixty,

This is a graded school, and consists of three grades, viz.: primary, intermediate and grammar. The text books used are a little different from the ones endorsed by the county superintendent of schools, and hence we give the list: Kirk and Belfield's arithmetic and reader; Appleton's geography, introductory and test-speller; Swinton's United States and General history; Brown's physiology; Swinton's word analysis, &c.

In this connection we must remark, that the records, relating to the organization of the school district, and all the school boards, prior to 1877, were destroyed, in the great fire of that year, and nothing remains from which to gather any data, but, beginning at that year, we give the names of the gentlemen who have served on that board: Wm. H. Parker, elected September, 1877, for one year; R. J. McHugh, Jno. Cronin, P. O'Reilly, Jno. A. Green, all elected Sept, 1877, F. E. Baker and Michael Martin, elected March, 1878, to serve for three years; R. F. Hedrick, elected March, 1878, for one year; Geo. Evans, O. A. Taylor, and C. Springer, elected October 17th, 1878, to serve three years; P. O'Reilly and C. Springer, elected March, 1879, for one year; A. J. Kucker and H. S. Blackett, elected March, 1880, for three years; M. Martin and S. A. Potter, elected March, 1881, for three years. The above comprises all the records of the school board, now remaining, for which we are indebted to C. N. Husting, the present secretary.

Lawler, was first incorporated about the middle of the year, 1871, but, here the the same calamity steps in and deprives us of any reliable data, as the greater part of the town records were destroyed, with the school records, in the fire of 1877. But tradition hath it, that J. W. Vanauken was the first mayor, Jno. McHugh, recorder, and that D. R. Kerby was a member of the first council, the balance we could not get at, with any reasonable degree of accuracy. However, at a meeting of the council, held September 17th, 1871, L. P. Hawley was appointed treasurer, and Jno. Phillips, marshal.

The council, present at a meeting held in June, 1872, we find H. E. Doolittle, H. B. Lawrence and J. A. Green, and a notice that L. P. Hawley resigned the office of treasurer, to take effect Sept. 17th, 1872.

Sept. 18th 1872, the new officers sworn in were:

John McHugh, mayor.

J. A. Green, councilman.

W. H. Parker       “

H. E. Doolittle,     “

Geo. Hemstock,     “

Dr. I. K. Gardner,   “

C. Seeber, recorder de facto.

This council appointed Thomas W. Thompson, marshal, September 21st, 1872, and after organizing, John Mc Hugh, resigning the position of mayor, J. W. Van Auken, was elected to fill the vacancy, and John McHugh, to fill the place of recorder.

The officers of the city, elected March 3rd, 1873, were C. Seeber, mayor; John Mc Hugh, recorder; H. S. Blackett, H. W. Parker, P. H. Leonard, H. E. Doolittle and P. P. Barron, members of the council; who after being sworn in, appointed, John A. Green, city treasurer; C. M. Stone, city marshal; John Phillips, street commissioner; E. Casey, assessor; and E. C. Walker, poundmaster, John Fitzsimmons, C. W. Harvey, I. K. Gardner, E. C. Crane and J. S. Fletcher members of the council, who appointed John Phillips, to fill the positions of marshal and street commissioner.

An election was held March 2nd, 1874, with the following result: C. Seeber mayor; John McHugh, recorder; H. S. Blackett, James McKone, P. H. Leonard, W. H. Parker and E. Hurlbut, members

of the council, who immediately appointed John A. Green, city treasurer and John Phillips, marshal.

At a meeting of the council, held September 17th, 1874, a resolution was passed, for the erection of a city jail, and the contract was accordingly let, but to whom the records are silent.

Mayor Seeber resigned, October 1st, 1874, but the vacancy was filled by pro tem. appointments, from time to time, until March 8th 1874, when at the election held then, Wm. Lawrence, was chosen mayor; E. Casey, recorder; John A. Green, treasurer.

There having been some informality in the first incorporation, early in 1876, the legislature was applied to, for an act to legalize the incorporation, on receipt of which an election took place, under the new act of incorporation then adopted. The said election took place March 6th, 1876, and William Lawrence, chosen mayor; D. R. Kerby, treasurer; H. C. Geeting, recorder; C. W. Harvey, E. C. Crane; John A. Green and I. K. Gardner, members of the city council, and John Phillips was continued in his dual office of marshal and street commissioner. However, after January 25th, 1877, J. Mc Kone's name, appears upon the records, as a member of said council, perhaps, as substitute to fill some vacancy.

At the election held March 5th, 1877, there were one hundred and fifteen votes cast within the the corporation, of which I. K. Gardner, received seventy-four, C. Seeber, fifteen, and J. W. Van Auker twenty-six, for the office of mayor; for recorder, H. C. Geeting, received sixty-six votes, I. K. Gardner seven, and I. N. Barker forty; for marshal, (now made an elective office) R. D. Parker had fifty votes against F. M. Phillips sixty-two; for street commissioner, F. M. Phillips, received fifty-seven votes, R. D. Parker, thirty, and C. W. Harvey, nineteen.

D. R. Kerby, polled eighty-two votes, J. S. Fletcher, twenty-six, and James Carter, three, for the office of city treasurer; for assessor, J. M. Lynch, received thirty-six votes, P. H. Leonard, sixty-three and John Nicholas fourteen. The vote on Councilmen stood, W. M. Morton, sixty-four. James McKone, ninety-two, D. C. McFarland, fifty-three, T. Cronin, fifty-nine, H. S. Blackett, fifty-seven, P. O. Reiley, fifty-four, C. Stringer, fifty, Joseph Binns, eleven, W. H. Parker, eleven, John Fitzsimmon, thirty-six, John Reiley, thirty-five and J. M. Lynch, one.

In according with the above vote, the officers and council for 1877 stood, I. K. Gardner, mayor; H. C. Geeting, recorder; D. R. Kerby, treasurer; F. M. Phillips, marshal and street commissioner P. H. Leonard, assessor; with W. M. Morton, James McKone, T. Cronin, P. O'Reilly, and H. S. Blackett, as council.

Mayor, I. K. Gardner, resigning the office May 1st, 1877, J. W. Van Auken, was chosen to fill the vacancy and entered upon the duties of the office, May 3rd, of the same year.

At the election held March 12th, 1878, Wm. Lawrence was chosen mayor; F. E. Baker, recorder; D. R. Kerby, treasurer; D. C. McFarland, R. T. Hedrick, R. J. McHugh, Wm. King and James McKone, members of the council; C. W. Harvey, street commissioner and P. H. Leonard, assessor.

March 4th, 1879, an election was held, J. W. VanAuken, received sixty-four votes for mayor, being a majority over all votes, cast for R. T. Hedrick and F. Clarkin, his opponent, and was declared elected.

For recorder, A. J. Kucker, received sixty-nine votes and J. M. Lynch, fifty-four.

D. R. Kerby, was elected treasurer, by one hundred and twenty votes out of one hundred and twenty-one cast. The council elected were as follows: C. Springer, Wm. King, Connor Cooney, D. C. McFarland, P. O'Reilly and H. S. Blackett. W. M. O'Brien, was elected assessor, and O. A. Taylor, street commissioner.

April 12th, 1878, a special election was held, in Lawler, to determine the question, whether fifty per cent of the state tax, for 1878, should or should not be appropriated for the roads outside of the corporation. The whole number of votes cast was thirty, and all in the affirmative.

March 1st, 1880, O. A. Taylor, was elected mayor; J. H. Lovejoy, was treasurer; C. N. Husting, recorder; J. M. Lynch, assessor; and H. J. Ditmars and D. C. McFarland, to serve as councilmen for three years, and J. W. Van Auken, for one year.

P. F. Kirk, was appointed the same time by council, to fill the position of street commissioner.

At the election, held March 7th, 1881, C. Seeber, was chosen mayor; D. R. Kerby, treasurer; C. N. Husting, recorder; A. J. Kucker, assessor; The street commissioner, elected at the same time, was O. A. Taylor; and F. Clarkin and C. Springer, as members of town

council. April 16th, 1881, A.J.Kucker had the duties of the office of marshal laid upon his shoulders.

The present officers, of Lawler, were elected March, 1882, and consist of C. N. Husting, mayor; Andrew S. Frink, recorder; D. R. Kerby, treasurer; A. J. Kucker, assessor; J. W. Lewis, marshal.

The present council consists of J. W. Van Auken, G. Miller, F. Clarkin, H. J. Ditmars, C. Springer and A. P. Johnson.

The Catholic church in the town of Lawler, was the first one built in the township, as we are credibly informed. It was built in the year 1872 and is a frame structure, 40x80 feet, with the usual steeple—common to the church edifices, of this denomination, the main building was erected at a cost of \$ 5,500, and in addition to it there has since been added, a sacristy, 24x30 feet, built at a cost of \$2,000.

The bell, which hangs in the tower, that is used to call the worshipper to its holy shrine—to ring out the Angelus—to toll for the burial of the dead, is one of the finest in this section of the country, weighing some 3,200 pounds and cost, in the neighborhood of \$500. Some one hundred and eighty families contribute, directly, to the support of the church, and a fair, gotten up for the benefit of it, is sure to be well patronized and realize a handsome amount, as did one held in January, 1883, when the receipts exceeded \$2,500.

Father Harrison was the first pastor the church had, and in fact, it was mainly by his efforts the church was built. He was succeeded by Father P. F. Farrelly, in 1875, who was, himself replaced by Father Bryne, the present incumbent. The society also possess in addition to the church a parsonage, or residence for the priest, a fine frame building, erected at a cost of nearly \$5,000, and is large, roomy, and convenient, and evidences the watchful care bestowed by the congregation upon the comfort of their spiritual guide. The house stands close by the church, and on the same grounds; a parochial school was erected during the year 1882, and, under the charge of the Sisters of Presentation (whose mother house is at Dubuque), has prospered. The building cost to erect about \$1,200, without the furniture, and the attendance is quite large, one hundred and fifty scholars being enrolled.



## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This society was organized some time during the winter of 1871-72, but, in the absence of records the exact date cannot be given. In 1872 they erected the building in which they worship, a neat frame one. The first pastor was a Mr. Frey, who came to the pastorate from Frankville; he was succeeded in about a year and a half by Rev. Manwell, who died, while pastor, in the year 1874; his successor was Rev. A. V. House, who came to Lawler in August, 1874, and died, while officiating shepherd of this flock, on the 27th day of May, 1875. The Rev. C. A. Marshall succeeded him until 1878, when, on that gentleman's removal to New Hampton, Rev. Thos. Kent was called to preside over the church, and remains, to-day, to minister to the spiritual wants of the congregation. The society is very small, numbering properly only about fifteen members, but the other Protestant denominations, having no church of their own, worship with them. There is a Sunday school attached to this church, of a union sentiment, however, of which Mr. A. J. Kucker is the superintendent.

A small number of German Lutherans in the community, however, hold occasional meetings in the Congregational church, but is, however, very thinly attended, and appears to have no regular organization as far as we could get at.

These are all the religious societies that the town can boast of, and with the exception of the Catholic church, does not seem to be very largely attended.

The first physician, who located in town, was Dr. E. Neil, whose advent was in the year 1870; he remained, practising his profession, until 1873, when he died.

Bryan J. Castle and Orville Potter were the first lawyers, and the date of their settlement was, almost, co-existent with the building of the town. The former, after starting the Lawler Gazette, in the year 1870, and running it, in connection with his legal business, about one year, gave it up in disgust and left the town. The latter, Mr. Potter, continued until 1872 the practice of law, when he, too, left for pastures new. H. C. Geeting commenced the practice of law in Lawler, in 1872, and his brother, John, in 1875, but in 1882, they discontinued the same, the former removing to St. Paul, Mr. C. Seeber being the only lawyer left to fill the wants of the litigiously inclined.

The postoffice was first established in Lawler in the summer of 1869, and Mr. John M. Green was the first postmaster, and continued to hold that position until 1879, when his known ability and integrity caused him to be elected to the office of county treasurer, and he removed to New Hampton. He was succeeded by J. H. Lovejoy, who held the place for two years, and was followed, in 1881, by William H. Parker, the present incumbent, who was formerly one of the prominent merchants of the town, dealing largely in agricultural implements, and who is one of its pioneer citizens, having located at this point in February, 1870.

In the early days of the town's history there was no bank properly so-called, but D. R. Kerby, then in the merchandising business, did somewhat of a banking business, which, as the needs of business grew, expanded until in October 1, 1875, Kerby and McHugh (consisting of D. R. Kerby and Jno. McHugh), opened a regular banking business and carried it to a successful issue. In 1881, Jno. McHugh retired from the firm, and it has been carried on ever since by Mr. Kerby, and enjoys the entire confidence of the whole community.

The town of Lawler boasts of a circulating library, which is well patronized by the general public. It contains about 400 volumes, and is owned by Francis Clarkin, another of the "oldest inhabitants." The number of volumes and the class of literature read speak highly for the general intelligence of the town, and evidences a thirst for the right kind of knowledge by the rising generation.

Whilst speaking of the general businesses of the town, we must not overlook one of its most prominent ones, viz: The Chickasaw County creamery, owned and operated by P. O'Reilly, one of the foremost merchants. It was established in 1878, and occupies a building 50x24 feet, with an engine and boiler house in addition of 36x12 feet, and is fitted up with all the most modern machinery for the business carried on. It also has a bored well of 20 feet depth, from which is drawn an inexhaustable supply of pure water. This creamery is said to have been the first one erected north of West Union, and is the largest in this county. About four or five hands are kept constantly employed inside, and from eight to seventeen wagons gather the cream from the surrounding country; the number varying with the season of the year. The books of Mr. Reilly show that during the year, 1882, there were handled at the creamery 181,486 inches of cream, and

the amount paid out for that item and for expenses generally, was \$41,181.17. We were favored with the sight of the following document, which the proprietor was making out:

HON. G. B. LORING, Commissioner Agriculture,  
Washington, D. C.:

The average number of cows supplying my creamery, for nine months.....	1,050
Number pounds butter made in nine months.....	161.894
Of which the value was.....	\$40,807.44
Value buttermilk, estimated.....	500.00

There are fed from the buttermilk, etc., one hundred hogs and thirty calves. from the sale of which considerable income is derived.

#### I. O. O. F.

Crane Creek Lodge, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized, at Lawler, on the evening of February 5, 1878, with fifteen charter members, and has been quite successfully run ever since. There are now thirty-four members in good standing, and the interest is well kept up. The lodge holds its meetings in Oakley's hall.

#### A. O. U. W.

A lodge of the Ancient Order of Workmen was instituted on the 9th day of April, 1878, with eleven charter members, but the membership has increased to 21 at the present. This lodge is in a most flourishing condition, and is reported to be one of the most prompt in paying its assessments, and singular to say, there has never been a death in the lodge since its organization. In the dispute between the State Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the United States, they have held with the former.

#### MILITARY.

The Lawler Battery was organized in May, 1878, by Lieut. D. G. Garvey, but it expired more than a year ago; although the gun still remains in town; C. H. Husting being the last commanding officer.

In the town's earlier history there existed a Roman Catholic Total Abstinence Society, which, in 1872, was in a healthy condition, and of which John McHugh was a prominent member, but at present it seems to have been disbanded and the records gone to "no-mans-land."

## FIRES IN LAWLER.

We are indebted to the New Hampton Tribune, of September 26, 1877, for the following account of the first great conflagration that desolated with relentless fury the town of Lawler.

"On the morning of the 21st of September, 1877, a fire broke out and destroyed the entire business part of Lawler. The fire originated in the drug and grocery store of Green and Lynch, about 3 o'clock A. M., from which it spread throughout the entire block. When it reached the billiard hall of John Doyle it leaped across the street and attacked Mrs. M. F. Binns' dry goods and millinery store, from which it spread through the block on the north side of the street, and from thence to the grain warehouses, by the railroad track. By a vigorous and determined effort the flames were arrested before they crossed the street, at G. Miller & Co.'s, where all who were engaged stood to their post with unflinching zeal, notwithstanding the flames were rolling around them and threatening instant destruction. Had it not been for their unceasing and faithful efforts, the entire length of Main street would have been burned. Below we give the losses and insurances:

	Loss.	Insurance.
Green & Lynch, drugs.....	\$12,000	\$3,000
Kean Bros., Times office.....	1,000	
D. G. West, law library.....	800	
E. A. Erwin, jewelry.....	4,800	
Miss E. Lawrence.....	1,500	300
Jno. Doyle, billiard hall.....	2,500	
J. M. Cailiff, carpenter tools.....	200	
Fitzsimmons Bros., saloon.....	1,000	400
J. Fitzsimmons, groceries.....	5,000	3,000
F. Clarkin, books.....	1,000	200
M. Martin, groceries.....	2,500	800
Pat. Lewis, house.....	600	
J. A. Real, butcher shop.....	100	
W. M. O'Brien, confectionery.....	750	
P. O'Reilly, dry goods, etc.....	5,000	1,500
Jno. Nicholas, dry goods.....	6,000	3,200
Lovejoy & McFarland, dry goods.....	6,000	6,000
Orson Ober, household goods.....	400	

Mrs. M. F. Binns, milinery, etc.....	4,500	800
M. W. Martin, household goods.....	1,500	600
Genshow & Co., hardware.....	3,500	800
H. Ditmars, household goods.....	400	
Padden Bros., house.....	1,000	
A. P. Johnson, bakery.....	1,000	
Jeff. Woodward, household goods.....	300	
I. N. Baker & Co., drugs.....	2,400	
Lawler Library.....	500	
Kerby & McHugh, bankers.....	6,000	2,500
H. Duryea, shoemaker.....	500	
Bassett, Hunting & Co., grain ware- house .....	2,500	2,000
Gilchrist & Co., grain warehouse.....	1,000	1,000
S. A. Potter, grain warehouse.....	800	
Argall & Leonard, grain warehouse.....	1,000	
Mrs. Chas. Argall, household goods.....	700	
Robinson & Co., grain warehouse.....	1,600	600
C., M. & St. P. R. R.....	100	
W. J. Cramer .....	200	
King's Hotel.....	100	
T. H. Kosten.....	500	
Jno. Reilly.....	100	
F. E. Baker.....	500	
Miscellaneous items in sums less than \$100.....	2,650	
Total.....	\$83,500	\$26,450

The conflagration left many without a home for the coming winter, but they were provided for as best could be. Jno. Fitzsimmons has purchased the building of Jno. Reilly and has opened a saloon.

The town will be rebuilt, or a part of it, this fall, with brick, will retain its former business, and add nearly as much more. A relief committee has been appointed to distribute the donations that have been sent in. The gentlemen are Messrs. Kerby, Blackett, Hedrick, McKone, and Martin; John McHugh, treasurer, and H. C. Geeting, secretary. At present writing Nashua has sent in

forty sacks of flour and some groceries, which came in time of need."

Again, on February 15, 1879, the demon of fire waved his torch over the town, and ruin, as usual, followed in his footsteps. We give the account of a correspondent of the New Hampton Tribune, of February 19th, who signs himself, "One who was there."

"About 1:30, on Sunday morning, February 15th, the fire was first discovered climbing the north wall of John McNevin's saloon. The alarm was sounded at once, and exertions were made to arrest the flames in their incipency, but without effect, and the fire soon enveloped the entire building, and in less than an hour the buildings of R. D. Parker, John McNevins, King's hotel, Wolf's barber shop, and the Exchange bank were in ashes.

Men and boys worked with a will and desperately to subdue the flames, and had action been taken a little earlier in the pulling down process the bank might have been saved. The losses are about as follows:

	Loss.	Insurance.
R. D. Parker, building and stock .....	\$2,500	\$1,500
J. McNevins, building, billiard tables, and stock.....	1,500	500
Wm. King, hotel.....	2,500	1,000
Wolf, barber shop.....	250	
Exchange bank building.....	1,200	
Total.....	\$7,950	\$3,000

There was no insurance on the Exchange bank building, as the policy had just expired.

No one will ever know how the fire originated, but it is supposed that one of the side-lamps exploded and set the building on fire. Yet, it seems doubtful that the lamp was the cause, from the fact that they had, at about 12 o'clock at night, scrubbed out the saloon, and are certain that the lamps were properly extinguished when they left. But they might have been mistaken, and the lamp being low it heated and caused the explosion, if there was one.

Too much praise cannot be given to certain bold men, who risked their lives, at several critical turns of the fire—especially Charles Jones, to whose indomitable pluck we may attribute the saving of

the buildings east of the bank. None of the parties burned out are despondent, and before long new and better buildings will occupy the sites now vacant. No one was seriously injured and the furniture was nearly all saved except that of Mr. Parker, who lost everything, including a large amount of salt pork and beef in his cellar.

The bank saved everything except the big safe, which was not much injured, and was doing duty again in about twenty-four hours."

We find, once more, that the fire-fiend visited this doomed town of Lawler and wrapped it in his mantle of flames, and again the smoke of the sacrifice arose on his altar, and the best part of the business portion of the town was laid in ashes, and blackened piles of half burned timbers, and rank desolation brooded in the midst of what was the most flourishing part of it. On the morning of Saturday, November 17, 1881, about one o'clock, fire was discovered issuing from the rear of the store of H. S. Blackett. The alarm aroused the citizens, but facilities for extinguishing the flames being wanting, they soon became masters of the situation and devoured, with greedy maw, many of the best buildings with their contents. We collate the following losses as carefully estimated by the citizens:

	Loss.	Insurance,
H. S. Blackett, building and stock.....	\$10,500	\$4,500
G. Miller, stock.....	4,000	1,700
P. O'Reilly, two buildings, stables, corn cribs, etc., with household furniture...	9,000	2,500
Sebarger & Broky, building.....	1,500	
O. G. Gershow, building.....	600	
Jno. McNevin, loss covered by insur- ance.		
Orson Ober, partial loss of household goods.		
A. Bechtel, building, stock, etc.....	1,800	800
A. P. Johnson, boots and shoes, and millinery.....	1,100	800
Patrick Lewis, two buildings.....	600	
O. C. Steen, building and loss on goods	700	400
Jas. McKone, building.....	500	300

Jas. Curran, moving stock.....	200	200
M. Martin. building and stock.....	1,800	1,400
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .....	\$32,300	\$12,600

## PAPERS.

During the year 1870 Bryan J. Castle founded a newspaper called The Lawler Gazette, which had an existence of about a year, when it was sold out and the outfit of the office removed from the town. On the 9th of April, 1875, The Chickasaw County Times made its first appearance, a five column quarto, owned and edited by Frank M. Haislet, now owner of the New Hampton Tribune. It met with considerable success, and on the 12th of April, the following year, Mr. Haislet was bought out by the Kean Bros. (Mathew and Patrick), who carried it on for two years and a half, when it passed into the hands of Messrs. Cooney & Konzen, who changed its name to The Lawler Times, and they having essayed to make it a paying investment without success disposed of it; after lying still for some time the material was removed to Waucoma.





## CHAPTER XII.

---

TOWNSHIP HISTORY; LOCATION AND EARLY SETTLEMENTS OF DAYTON, WASHINGTON, CHICKASAW, RICHLAND, DEERFIELD, JACKSON, UTICA AND DRESDEN TOWNSHIPS; GENERAL REMARKS; LITTLE BROWN CHURCH AT BRADFORD.

---

### CHICKASAW TOWNSHIP,

consists of that part of the county, known as 95 north, 14 west, and contains thirty-six sections of fine fertile land, and is well watered by the west branch of the Wapsie River; and by the Little Cedar and its affluents. Next to Bradford, this is the best timbered portion of the county, quite heavy belts of trees lining the streams on each side. The principal business of the inhabitants being grazing and raising the necessary fodder to feed their stock, a mixed state of farming that pays well, to judge from the fine farms and farm houses, that so plentifully dot its beautiful prairies.

In making up the history of this town, we are much indebted to William Tucker, now a resident of Washington, D. C., but formerly one of the oldest and most influential citizens of this section. His letter to us, detailing the events of his early advent in Chickasaw county, gives as much history of the town, as can be procur-

ed, and hence we freely quoted from it, although much of it may be a repetition of some things mentioned elsewhere, but it would break the thread of his narrative, and spoil a good story well told.

"In November, 1853," relates Mr. Tucker, "I left West Union, on horseback, to go to Bradford, this was early in the month. A Mrs. Finch lived at the farthest point west, about twelve miles from West Union, between that place and the Cedar river, and kept folks going to and from those points which were over forty miles apart.

I arrived there in the evening and staid all night, intending to make an early start in the morning. But when I arose, I found the ground covered with snow, which had fallen during the night. I was advised not to venture, so I returned to West Union, for two days, when I started to try again, and found on my arrival at Mrs. Finch's that no teams had come from the west, nor gone in that direction, since the snow had fallen. I hesitated, somewhat, about starting, but as it was clear as well as cold, I made the venture as I was on horseback, after getting my bearings. When about half way, I met Mr. Merritt, with two yoke of oxen, who had come through from Bradford; he told me to follow his back track and I would be all right, that he had cut the ice in the streams so I could get through; this was good news for me.

"The monotony of the journey was only broken, occasionally, by the sight of droves of deer passing from grove to grove, and a few elk in the distance. I had some difficulty in crossing the Wapsies, as it had frozen after Mr. Merritt had crossed, but not enough to bear my horse up. Night overtook me, however, before I got to Bradford, and seeing a light, off to my right, that looked near by, I left the trail and steered for it, but found it much further than I anticipated. About 9 o'clock, after some plunging in snow-drifts—tired and hungry—I struck the cabin from which the light emanated. Here I found William and Joel Bartlett, brothers, each with a family of children, occupying the cabin. Joel had, that day, buried his wife. They were living on section twenty-six, town 95, 14. This was my first night in Chickasaw township. After partaking of cornbread, milk, and venison, I slept soundly till morning. They told me that there were ten families living in T. 95, R. 14, viz: their own; Mr. Watson and Mr. Blunt on section twenty-nine; Joseph Lee, and L. D. Hoisington and father on section eleven, the latter being a little deranged, spent most of his time

under a large oak tree, by himself. One day he came up missing and the whole country turned out to search for him; the hunt extended for miles and for several days, but never got any trace of him. Some years afterwards, some bones were found, near the Wapsie, in Bremer county, which were supposed to have been his. The younger Hoisington went to Kansas afterwards. M. Jarrad and Samuel Monroe lived on section twenty-two. The former left for Minnesota, in a few years, and Monroe went to Nebraska but returned, and now lives at Bassett. James Frazee, was on section five, living in wagons and building a place for shelter as fast as they could; he was afterwards the first county treasurer and recorder. (This is evidently a slip of the memory as John Campbell, occupied that position, according to the records.—Ed) Mr. Kountz lived in the woods on section thirty.

"Next morning I went to Bradford, and learned there, that, there were about fifteen families in the township, besides a small number of young men, and others who had no families with them.

"Among these was one H. K. Johnson, acting justice of the peace at the town of Bradford and the one who administered the first oath in the county, (legal, not profane.) (The story is told elsewhere, in the history of Bradford township and we will not repeat it here.—Ed.)

"Andy Sample went that winter to get a stock of groceries, to open a store," continues Mr. Tucker, when he returned; and I saw them unload his sled, I asked him where his groceries were; he said: "In the barrels." "That looks like whiskey," I said; "yes;" was the reply. When I got ready to buy, I studied what would sell best and quickest and pay the most profit; and concluded it was whiskey and bought a barrel; then I studied again and thought of whiskey, and kept on thinking and buying until I had purchased five barrels of the stuff, and I guess I was about right. G. R. Rowley, was one of the prominent men of that town, and one of the freest and most open-hearted men I have ever met—ready to divide his last meal with any one—his house was open for all. He had a number of boarders, young men seeking their fortunes in the mighty west, and it was a lively place. In 1857 he went to Iowa City, to attend the Republican convention; a resolution was offered, before the meeting, that the motto of the party be "liberty or death," and he immediately amended it by

proposing as a substitute, that it be; "Root hog or die."

Among his boarders were E. R. Gillett, our first Republican representative; M. F. Gillett, the now noted Greenbacker of Bremer county, and others.

"At the first election in the county, there were about fifty votes polled; and a barrel of whiskey with the head knocked out, and a quart dipper to drink out of stood by the polls. It sometimes took two men to hold up the voter long enough for him to cast his ballot. I remember, distinctly, one man that was elected justice of the peace, being held up in that condition while he voted; (we have improved some on that since, for at the last election in Chickasaw township, the only man on the ground that was drunk, was elected justice of the peace, to spite the amendment folks.)

"Hon. James S. Wilson, of Dubuque, was the first district judge. The first time he came to hold court, he drove his ponies up to a log cabin prepared for the purpose, and without getting out of his buggy, told the sheriff to open court; which was accordingly done, and court was held under the canopy of Heaven, like the Vehme-gericht, of old. "Mr. Clerk," said he, "are there any cases on the docket." "No sir," was the reply; "make a record, and Mr. Sheriff adjourn the court;" was the judges answer; which was done, and off he drove. If the lawyers had stayed away from this section, this might be the case now, in all probability.

"James Lyon, of Crane Creek, a trapper, was our first county judge. The first time he came to Bradford to hold court; he walked over from his home. I think I see him now, as he came into the village, he was remarkably clean and starched up, his blue denim overalls, which he wore for pants, had been washed until they had shrunk half way to his knees. We, however, thought ourselves equal to the emergency. In the course of the evening we made up a purse to buy him a new pair of pants, but when it was mentioned to him in the morning; he disdained the offer with scorn, with remarks about being bribed.

"The winter of 1853-4, was a very severe one, but at one time during the season it sets in and thawed, the rain melting the snow of which there was plenty, all off. As we had been corralled all winter by the cold and snow, we concluded to go coon hunting. We divided into parties, three in each, Andy Sample, Cal Goddard and myself in one, and James Rowley, Doc. Haynes, and another, in the other. We each took a wagon and team, feed and provis-

ions. Our company crossed the Wapsie 2 o'clock P. M., fording the stream, took a lunch—baited the team, and started for coon. It was then warm, but in less than two hours we were driven back by a severe storm and heavy fall of snow. We consulted what to do, and concluded to remain where we were, and save ourselves as best we could, rather than risk freezing to death, by trying to move from the grove. We cut down a number of young white oaks, with the leaves on, and made a good windbreak. Behind this we moved our wagon and team, and building a rousing fire, and made the best of it, till morning. About 9 o'clock, next day we decided to get back home, if we could, the wind blowing hard; we crossed on the ice, with team, at the same place we had forded the afternoon before, and got home before night, all safe, and not even frosted. The other party were not so lucky, as frozen toes, fingers and noses testified, and which they nursed tenderly the balance of the winter. The Dr. and I amused ourselves the rest of the season, breaking and training a young elk, to work in a sleigh. We took a trip to Cedar Falls with him, about forty miles away, and on our return, a dog ran out from Barrett's house, at Janesville, and barked at our quadruped, who became unmanagable and took after the dog, who run and jumped the fence into the yard; the elk followed him and left us hanging on the fence, in a dilapidated condition.

"Mr Brink was our first postmaster; the conditions on which the office was granted, was that we should carry our own mails from Cedar Falls for the proceeds of the office; (no Star Routes then,) in no case was the government to pay anything. Howard, Floyd, Mitchell and Chickasaw counties got their mail at Bradford. I made seven trips that winter, for mail, to Cedar Falls, forty miles and back, at my own expense, four days to a trip, through the snow; and found that no mail had come through from Dubuque, three times out of the seven.

"Work on the saw mill at the town of Chickasaw was commenced, and the town surveyed, platted and commenced in 1854. The plank and other lumber had to be hauled from Auburn, through the sloughs, bridges being represented by an unknown quantity.

"The first school was taught by Miss Jane Billings, in a house

I built myself; she taught two terms, and I paid her, before we were organized for school purposes.

"Among the first pastors were Elder Lash, a member of the United Brethren, and Elder Prentiss, a free will Baptist minister, these did most excellent service. There was also a close communion Baptist, whose name I have forgotten, who came down from Charles City; he was a good one and most eloquent and always had full congregations until a job was put up on him, in the following manner. There was an Irish protestant family in the vicinity; they were very devoted, always at meeting. They had a child born, and when the minister had finished preaching a most eloquent sermon, these people were induced to walk up to him with the babe in arms, and ask the minister if he would "please to christen" it for her. The sensation is easier imagined than described; the minister went home with me to dinner, but did not mentioned it or ever came back again.

"I was the first merchant and the first notary public, there being no officer, for some time after I went to live there, to take acknowledgement of deeds or to administer oaths. I had several applications to marry couples, but I had to send them to West Union.

"Mr. Gaddis, was the first regular carpenter, Cal. Goddard, the first regular shingle maker. Messrs. Albertson, Waite and Baldwin, built the first grist mill, and Mr. Garling house, the first steam saw mill; these both 1855.

During the winter of 1853-4, a Mr. Clawson, who was at the head of a colony at St. Ansgar came down the Cedar, with a lot of men on snowshoes and with hand sleds, to get flour and provisions to keep his people from starving." The above, which is copied almost verbatim from Mr. Tucker's letter, covers most of the ground, but little can be added, but we will endeavor to give that little, gathered from a multitude of sources.

According to tradition the first settlers in the township were Abram Cagley, Russell Baldwin, Jerome Watson, and Messrs. Hines, Keesley, Hoffman and Bishop, but the exact date of their location, or the order of it, cannot be stated with the accuracy that is desirable, but the weight of evidence seems to point to the years 1853 and 4.

We have the best of evidence for the statement, that the first

child born within the limits of the township, was H. Bartlett, whose advent in 1855, was an event to be remembered by the few scattered settlers.

Ionia is now the most important place in the township, but the time was, before the laying of the railroad, that Chickasaw town was one of the most flourishing in the county; but its "glory hath departed," and now, Ionia carries the pre-eminence, and contains a population of 350 souls, supporting two churches, a fine public school, two hotels, etc.

An old settler reports, that, the country was so healthy that for several years after laying out the cemetery, there were no deaths, but a man, a stranger whose name never was known, was picked up near the banks of the Wapsie, in a dying condition. He was tended with the greatest sympathy, but he died and thus started the grave yard.

The township was organized in 1855, according to an order of the court, issued during the March term of that year.

Bassett, a thriving village, lying on the line of the railroad, about four miles west of Chickasaw or Ionia, is also within this township, and is quite a business point.

#### DAYTON TOWNSHIP.

For many of the following facts concerning Dayton township, we are indebted to an article prepared for the Chickasaw County Historical Society, by L. J. Young, and published in the New Hampton Courier of March 18th, 1881. The township of Dayton comprises the territory in the congressional township of 95 north of range 13 west. The surface is somewhat rolling, but no portion of it is hilly. The west fork of the Wapsipinicon river enters the township near the corner of sections 7 and 18, and runs in a southwesterly direction through sections 18, 19, 20, 29 and 32. The middle fork enters near the line between sections 4 and 5, and runs nearly south through sections 4, 9, 16, 21, 28 and 33. These streams abounded in beaver, otter, mink and muskrat, at an early date. Timber in this township is plentiful and generally evenly distributed; it is principally jack oak, burr oak and hickory. There are no stone quarries, but boulders convertible into building stone, or for walling wells and cellars, by blasting or drilling and splitting, are found on the prairies, and at the heads of sloughs. The soil is generally a rich loam, with clay subsoil. Good water

is generally obtainable by digging to a depth of from ten to sixteen feet. The township is especially well adapted to stock-raising and dairying, industries which are constantly receiving increasingly profitable attention.

The first appearance of settlement in Dayton township was made by a land speculator, in the shape of an entry of a valuable tract of timber, some time during the month of May, 1853, it having been Mr. Young's opinion that "greedy speculators" were largely responsible for retarding the township's actual settlement and growth.

The first settlers to come into the township were William Millikan, an Irishman, and — Smith, of Illinois. They pitched their tent on the east half of section 23. William Millikan pre-empted the northeast quarter and Smith the southeast quarter in September, 1854. During the same month William Millikan erected a "one-side roofed shanty" near Spring creek, on the land he pre-empted. This place was known by hunters for miles around who frequented the Wapsies for game, during the winter of 1854-5, as the "Hunters' Home." Many times has its worthy host supplied the wants of fifteen or twenty hunters, travelers or land speculators in a single night. Smith disposed of his claim to a land speculator in the fall or beginning of the winter of 1854. "The same winter," says the article from which we quote, "our honest and worthy host of the 'Hunters' Home' was shamefully wronged from the legal possession of his homestead. The facts, related to me by him, were as follows: During the fall, Millikan received intelligence that his son lay sick at Dubuque, and was not likely to recover, and wished to see him. He left all his household goods in his house and went to Dubuque. While he was gone a land speculator with two bribed witnesses, made oath that Mr. Millikan had left the country, and did not intend to return, and entered the land. Mr. Millikan, being a raw Irishman, and knowing nothing about the laws of our country, made no disturbance about it on his return."

The first effort at tilling the soil was begun May 19th, 1855, on the southeast quarter of section 1, by J. D. Colt, Esq., of New York. He raised an excellent crop of corn the same season, on the newly turned soil. Mr. Colt's prospects for making a first-class farm were very flattering, when his hopes were blighted. He



erected a good log house, and began to think himself comfortably situated—as comfortable as a bachelor generally makes himself; for Mr. Colt was at that time a bachelor—when, in November, William Haslam, of Illinois, put in an appearance with a title to the same land from the government—Haslam's title bearing date nineteen days previous to Colt's. The latter gave Haslam permission to occupy the house, but retained possession of all the improvements till the first of March, 1856, when he gave full possession upon being informed that Haslam's title would hold good. Haslam paid Colt a reasonable price for the improvements, and the matter was amicably adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties.

D. A. Jackson, of Pennsylvania, entered about 270 acres on the 21st of May, 1855. In June he commenced breaking and building a house and stable on section 11. Mr. Jackson, being an eastern man, began farming in true eastern style.

During the spring of this year, Benjamin Bailey, of Ohio, and father of Judge Lorenzo Bailey, settled on section 34. — Kershaw and — Negus settled on section 28, made some improvements, sold in the autumn and left. J. B. Cotant, of Ohio, settled on section 3, in July of the same year. Eli Darst, of Illinois, came in June of this year, and made some improvements on section 17. In July, E. B. Hewit settled on section 1. William S. Morley came during the year, and settled on section 10. Rev. C. M. Webster came in the fall of 1855, and settled on section 4, and in the summer of 1856 he opened quite an extensive farm. Mr. Webster was elected county surveyor in August, 1856, and was appointed by the postmaster general as postmaster of the Beaver City postoffice, which was located at his place of residence. This postoffice was subsequently relocated in Utica township. During the fall of 1855 Z. H. Morton, of Wisconsin, settled on section 14; James Clark settled on section 9. Settlers came in rapidly for a short time in 1856.

Dayton township was organized April 6, 1857. D. A. Jackson was the organizing constable. The first election was held at Mr. Jackson's house on the day just named. The "house" was "called to order" by appointing Eli Darst chairman, and E. R. Gillett secretary. A ballot was then taken for judges of election, resulting in the choice of C. M. Webster, William S. Morley and Wesley Swayze. D. A. Jackson and L. J. Young were chosen clerks o

election. The board of electors were sworn to perform their duties according to law, by Rev. S. M. Prentiss, a justice of the peace of Richland township. The following officers were elected: C. M. Webster, Eli Darst and Wesley Swayze, trustees, Levi. J. Young, clerk; E. R. Gillett, W. S. Morley, Justices of the peace; E. B. Miller, William Haslam, constables; Z. H. Morton, road supervisor. The whole number of ballots cast was twenty-three. W. S. Morley and E. B. Hewit were opposing candidates for justice of the peace, and received a tie vote. W. S. Morley was declared elected by lot.

#### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The territory comprised within the congressional township of ninety-six, and the south half of ninety-seven, north, range thirteen, west, is known as Washington. The surface is gently undulating, rather than rolling prairie, but is of a rich, black loam, that proclaims this to be one of the best townships in the county for fine farm land. Like the balance of the county it is well watered. the east fork of the Wapsipinicon river having its source in the northern part, and flowing in a southeasterly course throughout it. The "Little Wapsie" also enters the township at the northwest corner of section 7, flows also in a southeasterly direction, watering sections 7, 18, 20, 29, 32, and 33. These streams abound with fish, and the traditional stories that are told of the amounts of otter, mink, and muskrats that inhabited their waters, in early days, are almost incredible.

The timber in this township is not so plentiful as in some others, and what there is is composed principally of jack oak, burr oak, and hickory. There is no building stone within its boundaries, except the massive boulders, relics of a mineral age, which are convertible into excellent material to lay up foundation walls, or walling up wells. These are found scattered all over its surface, and are specimens of granitic formation; but by blasting and splitting they are soon reduced and shaped to the purposes of man. According to tradition, Samuel W. Byers was the first settler within its limits, but even this is disputed by some, and when "doctors disagree, who can tell?" The same fortune seems to attend to Washington that does to the others in the county; little, if any,

settlement until 1855, then quite an immigration, so much so, that at the March term of the court, 1856, the order was granted for its organization as a separate township, but for some irregularity in the proceedings said organization was set aside, and the township was attached to that of Deerfield until April, 1859, when it was once more attempted to conclude the organization, and this time with success. North Washington is the only village in the township, and is situated on the southwest quarter of section twenty, on the banks of the Little Wapsie, and contains a postoffice and store, a saloon, a fine Catholic church, and the usual blacksmith shop; the inhabitants are mostly German, or of that extraction.

#### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP.

The earliest settlement within the limits of township 94, north, range 13, west, now known as Richland, was made by Jas. B. Upham, who, as early as the fall of 1854, located his farm on section one, about one mile north of where the present village of Williamstown stands; here he reared the family mansion, more comfortable than palatial, out of the logs cut from the woods so near his own door, and like Selkirk could have said he was "monarch of all he surveyed," for not a neighbor for twenty miles was there.

Joel Parsons and David Tingley, however, located their farms in the fall of the same year, but did not move on them until in the spring of 1855, when they took up their residence in the county. In the same year, viz, March 20, 1855, H. H. Bailey laid claim to a farm in section twelve, the same as now owned by him. With him came George Bailey, Malachi Hardock and others, and were followed by a colony of twenty-one persons from the town of Erie, Penn. These parties procured an order from the county court, at the March term, 1856, to organize the township, and proceeded to elect the necessary officers and lay the foundation for the present system of government.

Forest City was, by some irregular proceedings of the board of canvassers, declared the county seat in April, 1858, but in June of the same year an information being filed in the clerk's office, the court ordered a mandamus restraining the records, etc., from being taken there from New Hampton, and ordering the board to correct the irregularities of their return and count the votes; this was

reversed by the supreme court on an appeal being taken. The court decided, however, at the spring term, 1859, that the town of New Hampton had the best claim to county seatship, and the records were returned to that place, and Forest City has quietly retired to private life, and is now numbered with the things that were. Where its streets were laid out now nods the bending corn, and where its citizens trod, with the proud step of the metropolitan, now echoes only to the tread of lowing kine and the whistling ploughman.

The first brick edifice erected within the limits of the county was built in Forest City in the year 1857, and was a woodhouse, henhouse, etc., and owned by the Hon. Hiram Bailey; the mason who laid the bricks in the walls was no less a personage than J. H. Powers, now one of the most shining lights of the Chickasaw county bar. These bricks were burned in a kiln owned and operated by Zelotes and Thompson Bailey, who enjoy the credit of making the first bricks ever manufactured in the county.

Williamstown has absorbed all that was of Forest City, and still remains a small, though enterprising, village. It seems that Wm. Grant applied for a postoffice at or near Forest City, and gave it the name of Williamstown, but in 1877 it was moved to the corners where it is now located. The first postmaster after its removal was W. Hood, who still retains the onerous office. The store is owned by Hood & Bailey, who also own the creamery.

The town also boasts of a neat and tasty church, in which the Methodist Episcopal denomination meet for worship. It was erected during the year 1881, by Bennett Bros., of New Hampton, at a cost of \$1,825, and reflects great credit upon them for the substantial and workmanlike, in which it has been built. It is of frame, 26x42 feet, and has a seating capacity of about 250. The present pastor, who presides over the spiritual welfare of this flock, whose number is about fifty-five, is Elder Jno. Jones. And here it would, perhaps, be as well to say that Rev. Samuel Prentiss delivered the first sermon in the township at an early day, but the exact date our informants were not agreed on.

The educational interests of the younger generations are insured by a fine school, which is open the whole year, and under the wise administration of Principal Milo George, and Assistant Principal Bradley A. Lillebridge, the sixty-five pupils make the necessary

progress. Anna Lillebridge is secretary and treasurer of the school board of the district.

#### DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP.

We have been so fortunate as to obtain the MSS. of a historical sketch of Deerfield township, written by I. A. Sawin, in 1859, which, as a concise and accurate account of the township to that year, we quote in full:

"Deerfield township embraces town 96, range 14, and the south half of town 97. The surface is generally undulating, or gently rolling, being in no part hilly. The bottom land of the streams, say one-half mile in width, is nearly level. The West Wapsie enters the township near the northwest corner, and runs its entire length in a direction east of south. The Middle Wapsie runs a few miles through the northeast corner of the township, also in a southeasterly direction. I believe there are no good mill sites on the streams. The water is good and furnishes great facilities for raising stock. The larger portion of the township is prairie. Valuable groves of timber, principally of the kind known as jack oak, are found along the streams and in the northern part. This timber is excellent for fencing, being easily made into rails. A single acre has been known to yield four or five thousand. Timber for building purposes is very scarce.

"The soil is generally of rich sandy loam from one to three feet in depth, lying on a clayey subsoil. Water of excellent quality is obtained by digging from twelve to twenty feet. In the north center of ninety-six, extending into ninety-seven, is a tract of several hundred acres of limestone land, furnishing inexhaustible quarries for lime and for building.

"Wild animals, which abounded at the time of settlement, are now scarce. A few deer, of the hundreds which once abounded here, are all that now remain. A small pack of grey wolves—perhaps half a dozen—still make their home with us. The prairie wolf—a skulking, cowardly brute, which sometimes, though seldom, performs the feat of robbing a henroost—is quite plenty. A few wildcats, badgers and raccoons are also found. Of amphibia the beaver, otter, muskrat, and mink are quite plenty.

"The southeast quarter of section three abounds with the remains of human skeletons, and on the surrounding prairie, to the distance

of two miles, they are occasionally found. When the first settlers came upon the ground, in 1854, the stench arising from the slaughter ground was yet quite strong. I have not yet been able to obtain a very clear or authentic account of this massacre, by which several hundred human beings must have lost their lives; but the following, obtained at second-hand, two years ago, from a Winnebago Indian, is submitted in the hope that inquiry may be stimulated and more certain information be procured:

"About twelve years ago—or say in 1847—a party of Sioux warriors left their old men, women, and children, to the number of three hundred or more, here, and proceeded to Prairie du Chien. A party of Winnebago warriors found the camp in this unprotected condition, and murdered every soul. They then took the road to the Mississippi, and meeting the returning Sioux warriors, settled the affair by paying them fifty ponies as an indemnity. The skeletons, many of which were those of infants, corroborate the main facts of this account, but the time given does not agree with the statements of the first settlers, or the well known condition of the skeletons in 1856, many of which were entire at that time. I think the date of the massacre must be later than that given in the above account.

"On the 5th of May, 1854, the first permanent settlement was made in this township. Almon Harris, of Massachusetts, John Spurr, Myrick Spurr, and Edwin Hale pitched their tents on sections three and four, and immediately commenced improvements. Mr. Harris is still a citizen of the township; the other three have left. Though a mechanic by trade, Mr. Harris' efforts at farming are successful in bringing under cultivation a quarter section of the most beautiful prairie, and at this time, September 1859, he is building a substantial frame building, ample for all the purposes of his farm. His nearest neighbor was James Frazee, of Chickasaw, seven miles distant.

"The second settler was William Morris, an Englishman by birth, who settled on section eight in the latter part of May, 1854, and who is still a resident of the township. About the same time Abner Gallup also settled on section eight, but did not remain long. William Doyle and Mrs. Martha Harris came in early in the spring of 1855, and settled in the northern part of the township. M. P. Choat settled in the southern part about the same

time, and immigrants now came in so rapidly that in the autumn of 1856 there were nearly as many settlers as at the present time.

"I am not aware that any mineralogical or geological examinations have been made by scientific men. I am informed by C. H. Dore, Esq., that while digging a well on the farm of David Lovelace, on sections 12—96, at the depth of sixteen feet, pieces of timber resembling cedar trees of several inches in diameter were taken out. Small specimens of coal were also found, which ignited and burned readily. While digging a cellar on the farm of Heman Culver, Esq., I found many specimens of a petrified nut, resembling the Madeira nut in every particular, save that they were larger.

"Deerfield township was organized April 7, 1856. William F. Wright was the organizing officer. The first election was held at the house of C. D. French on the same day. Heman Culver, Jacob A. Cummins, and M. P. Choat were judges, and William F. Wright, and J. G. Farnum, clerks. The following is a list of the officers chosen:

Trustees—M. P. Choat, M. D. Harris, and C. D. French.

Justices of the peace—Heman Culver, and T. W. Ashley.

Clerk—J. G. Farnum.

Assessor—Jacob A. Cummins.

Constables—D. Jared, and Willard Bennett.

Road supervisor—Chauncey Boyes.

Whole number of votes cast, 24.

The almost total destruction of the crops of 1858, caused by the extraordinary floods of that season, reduced many settlers to extremities, and many subsisted during the year on the barest necessities of life. Again, this season, 1859, the farmer is doomed to the almost total loss of his corn by the frost of September 2d. But such is the energetic character of the people, that but little discouragement is manifested. They feel confident that a succession of good seasons, which must soon follow, will relieve them of their embarrassments and repay them for all their toil and privations. Seldom does an entire township present a more industrious population. I do not know of a single able-bodied individual, who does not obey the scriptural injunction, to earn his bread by laborious industry. Surely, if any community de-

serves a bountiful supply of the necessities of life, this community ought to receive it."

## JACKSONVILLE TOWNSHIP.

Jacksonville township embraces all of the territory known as townships 96, and south half of 97, north, and 12, west, and contains a township and a half, surveyors measure, or 54 sections. Like the balance of the county it is well watered, Crane and Plum creeks, and the Little Wapsie traversing its almost entire length. The soil is rich, dark soil, as most bottom lands are, with the exception of some sandy spot near the creeks and river. The juicy grasses, which cover the untilled portion of the land, are such as to draw the attention of much of the farming community to the business of stock raising and grazing, and we find this to be the principal mode of farming, although some land is given to raising corn, wheat, oats, barley, timothy, and other grains and seeds.

Of the early settlement of this township it is impossible to decide who was the first to locate within its boundaries, but the weight of evidence seems to indicate that Henry Shaffer was the first pioneer who located therein; the date of his settlement was 1853. Hazzard Green located himself in 1854, and seems to have been the second, but we find among those that came the same year the names of John Davidson, Hiram Palmer, R. H. Mills, T. E. Mills, J. Fitzpatrick, Frank Dane, John Conner, S. Shaft, and B. B. Orton. The following year many more located in the same township, among them D. R. Kerby, now the banker in the town of Lawler, and Francis Clarkin.

Hazzard Green built the first house in the township, a log hotel on what was later the plat of the town of Jacksonville. This hotel he was landlord of until 1857, when it was torn down. Shortly after he erected it, Allen and Wilkerson, of McGregor, built a branch store at this place, the first in the township, this was in the fall of 1855. It was a board shanty 14x20, erected in a week, no plastering adorned the walls, and, the winter being a severe one, the wind and weather kept the temperature within it at so low an ebb that John R. Jarrett, who was manager and Clerk (now a prominent merchant of McGregor, Iowa,) was compelled to wear his overcoat and overshoes all the time to keep comfort-



able. The first blacksmith in the place was—White and Julius P. North opened a hardware and tinware store in the same year. In the year 1856, the proprietors of the ground on which the town of Jacksonville now stands, seeing from this growing settlement that a town would eventually spring up there laid out and platted it and put the lots in market. At this time the hotel, stores of Allen & Wilkerson and J. P. North the blacksmith shop and the dwelling houses of Messrs. White and North comprised the whole of the town yet it was of considerable importance being a stopping place on the roads from Dubuque to Austin, Albert Lea, etc.

All the goods at this time were brought from, Dubuque except flour and that was from the nearest mills at Clermont, Elgin and Elkader, and all the freight for the places beyond traveled the thorough fare that passed through Jacksonville township. Hazzard Green at this time was landlord of the hotel, justice of the peace and postmaster, for he had by his efforts succeeded in having a postoffice located here as early as 1855. Although he and several other parties had to bear the expense of supporting the stage which brought the mail from West Union, this they did for accommodation of the people as no postal route was laid out from that place.

Jacksonville at its first organization was united with Utica, and the two together were known as Obispo township; the date of this first organization is gained from an order of the county judge at the March term of court 1855, wherein is ordered the organizing, and necessary election, of Obispo township. But at the March term 1858, by order of the court the townships were separated and organized as they now are, and this one named, Jacksonville, by one of the parties who was influential in the movement, a Mr. Dickinson, who came from Jacksonville, Ills.

The first school according to the best accounts was one opened in the town of Jacksonville during 1855, and taught by a man by the name of Cole, although it is claimed that a school was taught in a log cabin near Crane Creek the year before, by a son-in-law of Dickinson's, but of this there remains nothing certain, and the question remains involved in some obscurity.

The first preaching in the town was from the lips of "Elder Dickinson" as he is commonly called to this day, and occurred in the year 1856. In that year there were two church societies

formed, a Methodist and a Baptist, but neither ever erected a church; nor has there ever been one built in the town yet, although several are scattered throughout the township, both of these societies worshipped in the school house.

During the panic of 1857, the town, like many others scattered throughout our grand old state, suffered from the effect of the collapse in values, and the wheat crop of that year seems to have failed, for many old settlers relate how in that year starvation stared them in the face; all winter they fought the wolf from the door, soft corn was their only food and especially blessed was he that had enough of that; every merchant failed and went under, and the whole business of the place seemed to be paralyzed; long had they to remember that terrible winter; and it seems that the town has never recovered from it, even to this day there is no business transacted there, and, but a feeble remnant of a town is visible.

Early in its history, Dr. Edw. Hubbard located himself at the town and commenced the practice of medicine, but the country proved so healthy, that he lingered along for several years and seeing that his chances to acquire a fortune were small, he "departed for pastures new" and for many years the place was without a physician, and as for lawyers it is said none ever settled within its limits.

Jacksonville township has but little of the eventful in its history that would make it interesting, but it has been said "that the less there is of history to write about a place, the more it demonstrates that its existence has been peaceful."

At one time there were several stores in addition to those named above among which we find—the names of Dickinson & Vaughn, Kerby and Lynch and others. A store kept by John VanAuken now of Lawler, was the last in the place.

#### UTICA TOWNSHIP.

This is the eastern of the northern tier of townships. It is well watered by the Little Turkey river, which enters it on section 19, township 97, north range 11, west, and running in a southeasterly course passes out on section 25, township 96, range 11, west; and by Crane creek, which irrigates the southwestern quarter. The land is fine rolling prairie, interspersed with good timber; the

latter being particularly fine on the creek and river bottoms. There is a postoffice at Saude in the northern part of the township, but most of the community avail themselves of the Lawler post-office, which is most convenient of access, besides being their principal shipping and trading point. This township was united to Jacksonville and known as Obispo, until March, 1858, when they were separated by order of the county court and organized on their present basis.

This is a purely agricultural and stock-raising township, no towns or villages dot its prairies, and with the exception above mentioned no postoffices, are located therein.

The northern part of it is largely populated by the Scandinavian element, but in the southern part the Irish and native American prevails.

Tradition hath it that the first settler in what is now Utica township was Jas. Lyon, or as he is familiarly known; "Judge Lyon" who located on land therein as early as the summer of 1852. But we are credibly informed that he was preceded two years by Terence Cummerford who reared his roof tree and ploughed his acres as early as 1850. These were followed in 1853 by G. Clapper and in 1854 by Wm. Everingham. These scattered farms, which they essayed to open formed the nucleus of the settlements of the next few years, that in a short time transformed the lifeless waste into smiling farms, whose rich harvests gathered each year add to the wealth of the county. Among the arrivals for the year 1855 occurs the name of D. R. Kerby, now engaged in the banking business at Lawler.

#### DRESDEN TOWNSHIP.

Township 94, north range 12, west, is known as Dresden. Much of the land is covered with timber and brush although it has some very fine farm lands, and is well watered by the East Wapsipinican river, or as it is more familiarly called "Wapsie." There is no village within its boundary, not even a store or postoffice, and the inhabitants get their mail either at Fredericksburg, just across the line, in the township of the same name, which lies directly east of it; or at Williamstown on the west. There is no data from which to gather any of the first settlers names from oblivion, and as the population is purely and simply agricultural has little or no his-

tory. The story of every day life, while it has the charms of peacefulness and quiet, has nothing in it attractive to the historian or romancer, nor would it be interesting to the general reader. The township was organized, as such, in the year 1859, the order of the county court being issued at the March term of that year. Subsequently, the east tier of sections were detached and added to Fredericksburg township, but have since been restored, except, the southeast quarter of section 12, and the northeast quarter of section 13, which still remain a part of the latter. The only industrial institution within the township, as far as we have learned is, the cheese factory about one mile north of Williamstown. This was established by John Kolthoff, May, 1878, and has been in active business ever since. The building is a neat and substantial edifice and supplied with all the modern machinery for turning out a first-class article, and judging from the prosperity of the owner, it most likely does.

---

The following letter, in regard to the "Little Brown Church," at Bradford, was received too late for insertion in its proper place, in the history of that township, but as it presents a picture, drawn by a masterly hand, of the early labors of the first pastor; the building of the church, whose very existence seems classical; the church of which that "Sweet Singer in Israel," W. S. Pitts, of Fredericksburg has written such a charming song. The winter Rev. J. K. Nutting, was the first shepherd of the church, and although the letter was not written for publication, we have taken the liberty of inserting it in full.

MILBANK, Dakota, February 22, 1883.

Editor Chickasaw County History:

I received your note in reference to the "Little Brown Church" at Bradford, and am happy to reply, tho' I shall hardly be able to specify as minutely as to dates, as you may wish, but these you can readily obtain.

I came to Bradford in October 1859. At that time the town was quite the metropolis of the county, and the prospect was good that manufacturing would be carried on to an extent that would sustain a large population. The county seat had already been transferred to New Hampton, which was a lonesome and

unlikely-looking spot enough, tho' occupied by some most excellent people.

My congregation moved about, seldom more than three months in a place, for several years. At first we worshiped in a hall over what was then Thomas' store (now, perhaps, Dickenson's). Then we went to a large square room directly north of that—built by Andy Sample for a store. This building had been left without care, and had been taken possession of by sheep, until our little flock ousted them. Then we went to the dining room of the Cory hotel, and sometimes, I think, to the ball room of the Bronson house. At last we settled in the brick school house (now academy), which, at that time was a most uncomfortable place.

During the year 1861-2 (I should say), I occupied for a study, a room in the house of Mr. Dickinson. Here began the little church building.

Our able men were mostly in the army. The times were excessively hard. Wheat, at McGregor or Waterloo, about thirty-six cents per bushel. "Stumptail" Wisconsin money going back on us; everything looking dark. S. F. Eastman came to my study to consult with me; he said it would not be possible to raise as large a salary as I had been receiving, but hoped I would try and stay on what could be raised, that is, four hundred and fifty dollars. I told him (what he already knew), that prices of all merchandise had nearly doubled, and that it would be very difficult to provide for my family, but that I would stay on one condition: that he should take hold with me, heart and hand, to build a church. To this he agreed, and I considered success a certainty from that moment.

Soon after we made our first move by going to Mr. J. Watson for a donation of timber. He went with us to the woods, and generously marked for our use enough of the finest oaks on his land, to furnish nearly all the dimension timber and coarse lumber generally, for the whole building (the sills, however, were given by Joseph Bird). This done, I next secured a force of choppers (headed, I think, by Dea. Billings), to go into the woods and get these trees ready for the mill. Some of the logs were hauled to the mill (then near by), on the snow, but many were left until the next June. Then Wm. Pomeroy got an ox team, and I went with

him to get the rest. I shall always remember that job, because of a singular incident. We disturbed a pheasant with a covey of half-grown young. The mother made the usual fuss and pretence to draw our attention, while the chicks scattered in all directions. The team passed on and I lingered behind to see what would happen. In a few moments I heard the peculiar call of the mother bird, and in an instant one and another of the chicks came whirring past me, to rejoin her. One of them came so near that I put out my hand and caught it as one would a ball, "on a fly." I feel reasonably certain that in this respect I stand alone among my race. Who, beside me, ever achieved the distinction of catching a pheasant with the bare hand, on the wing? But I should not expect to do it again.

If memory serves, we also got the lots about the same time, given, I think, by Joseph (or John), Bird, and beautiful by reason of the encircling oaks; and, we also got out the stone for the foundation; Mr. Newton Palmer taking a leading hand at the quarrying. During the summer or fall we again made a bee, and laid the foundation, which, on the inside, presents several varieties of style. I recall the fact that one brother laid the stone slanting, like those in the stone fences of New England, which had been the origin of his stone craft. But all being fitly joined together, answered the purpose, and we laid the sills with rejoicing.

Was it about a year after that, that we began to erect the house? I should think so. And I do not remember that we had any subscription paper (though I may be mistaken), till much later, But every one gave labor or material as he could, and step by step progress was made. The house was roughly enclosed, except part of the tower that fall. Then rough boards were laid for a floor, and some use was made of the building. I specially remember a school exhibition under Mr. Taylor. It was well on in December, and there was no way to warm the building, but an exceptionally mild winter allowed the children to appear on the stage without discomfort, even in the most gauzy attire.

The next spring the finishing of the house was let by contract to two brothers (names gone from me), and a subscription was made for pine lumber to finish with. This was hauled, I think from McGregor. We were to receive a certain amount from the Congregational building fund, \$400 or \$500. But it began to ap-

pear that even that amount would not be sufficient, and we all began to think where we could gain a little more help. It occurred to me that perhaps something could be obtained from the wealthy church of Pittsfield, Mass., whose pastor, Rev. John Todd, D. D. (author of "Student's Manual," "Index Rerum," etc.), had been formerly pastor of the church with which my parents were connected. A letter to him brought a characteristic reply, inclosing more than a hundred dollars. This began a most interesting personal acquaintance with the doctor, and led to my visiting him repeatedly, and it happened that I had the privilege of attending him during a portion of his last sickness, in 1873.

The first religious use of the house was in the fall after it was furnished, but not seated—date forgotten—for the funeral obsequies of Mrs. Smith, wife of Capt. John Smith. The dedication occurred I should think, during the following winter, bad weather preventing the presence of most of those invited. This brought us to the spring of 1865, when, as a delegate to the "Boston Council," I went east. While at Pittsfield I received a commission from Thomas Colt, of that place, to go to Troy, N. Y., and select a bell for the church. I did so, and sent it on. On its way it excited much attention, being rung by the crowd at Dunleith, Dubuque, and more or less at nearly every station along the line. On my return I found it in place in the belfry. The pulpit of solid oak was made under my direction by a carpenter at Greenwood; I cannot call his name.

In some of these statements I may also possibly be mistaken.

What days those were when we were all working together for that great object! And though I have since had in hand much heavier jobs—have erected churches into which that might be set (without more than docking the top of the tower a little), and have plenty of room all around—yet never have I more enjoyed my work.

The railroad destroyed the town, but I am glad to know that the Little Brown Church holds its own, and is still accomplishing the work for which it was erected. Some day I hope to revisit the spot, and witness how much and what of fruit remains of these labors so long ago.

Yours very cordially,

J. K. NUTTING.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

As will be observed it has not been attempted to give all the churches and school houses in the different townships, but only the more prominent ones. Many of these are scattered over the rolling prairies outside of the various towns and villages, and without some special prominence being attached to them, it would be a dreary list to enumerate.

## POLITICAL.

In politics, the county on all national and state issues, is generally republican, the vote on the presidential election of 1880, was, republican, 1324; democrat, 1003; greenback, 486. In county matters however the party lines are not so closely drawn, and local issues are nearly always able to distribute the offices among the parties. The greenback element in the county has grown to be quite a power as witness the vote of 1882 when for representative to congress from the fourth congressional district, L. H. Weller, the democratic-greenback candidate, received 1,356 votes; and Thos. Updegraff, republican, 928.





### CHAPTER XIII.

---

WAR RECORD; ACTION OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; CARE OF SOLDIERS' FAMILIES, ETC.; HISTORY OF 7TH IOWA INFANTRY; 38TH IOWA INFANTRY; 4TH IOWA CAVALRY; ROSTER OF VOLUNTEERS.

---

The principal regiments in which Chickasaw county volunteers served, were the seventh, and thirty-eight infantry, and fourth cavalry, whose operations are briefly outlined in this chapter, however many men were in other regiments, as will be seen on reference to the roster of volunteers. A complete list of them is however impossible to prepare at this day, but we have endeavored to make it as full as a thorough search of the adjutant general's report could allow, aided by the testimony of those best posted on the subject. But first will be taken up the action of the county government in regard to the matter.

Chickasaw county was an intensely loyal county throughout the war of the rebellion, and her part in its history was one upon which her citizens are justified in looking back with pride.

At the June meeting of the board of supervisors, in 1861, the following resolution was introduced:

"Whereas, There is an extensive conspiracy existing in our nation, set on foot for the purpose of subverting the constitution and destroying the government; and several states being in open rebellion against the government, and now making war upon the same; and whereas, the president of the United States has issued his proclamation, calling upon all loyal citizens to rally around the 'old flag,' and aid in the suppression of the rebellion; in response to which call, the people of the loyal states are freely offering their lives and money, in support of the best government on earth; and whereas, many of the citizens of Chickasaw county have enrolled themselves as members of a volunteer company, holding themselves in readiness to leave their homes in the defence of their country therefore,

"Resolved, That an appropriation be made to each volunteer, resident of their county, who may enlist from this county, either in the state or national service, of the sum of ten dollars, as an outfit and the sum of three dollars per month, and the further sum of four dollars per month, each, to the wives of such as have families, and the parents of those who depend upon said volunteers for support; and the sum of one dollar per month for each child of said volunteers under the age of six years. Said amounts to be paid for the time and during the absence of the volunteers from their homes, in the service. The said money to be paid to the order of the volunteers, or their wives, from the county treasury, out of the county funds not otherwise appropriated, on the warrant of the clerk of the board of supervisors of this county. And in furtherance of this object, it is hereby made the duty of the supervisors of each township, to furnish the clerk with a certified list of the names of the volunteers who go from his township, together with the names of the parents, wives and children of said volunteers, who may be entitled to money by this appropriation. And the clerk is instructed to keep on file in his office said list, and when any person shall present a valid claim for money under this appropriation, whose name shall appear on either of said lists, said claim, on being duly sworn to, the clerk is authorized to draw his warrant for said amount."

This resolution was adopted by a vote of ten yeas to one nay.

The age of children to be aided by the appropriation, was afterwards changed from six to twelve years. It will be readily seen

that in their haste to testify the county's loyalty to the Union' and in their eagerness to aid in its preservation, the board entailed a very heavy expense upon the young and sparsely settled county; so great an expense, in fact, as to become a burden scarcely able to be borne, and it is no wonder that, subsequently, alterations in the plan became necessary, and expedients were resorted to for the purpose of making the burden lighter, while at the same time continuing to render the assistance needed to the volunteers and their families.

At the January meeting of the board, 1862, a committee of three was appointed to devise a plan to extricate the county from the difficulty occasioned by the appropriation for the benefit of the volunteers. This committee presented a majority report, signed by M. L. Palmer and M. L. Choate, and a minority report, signed by William B. Grant.

The majority report was, in substance, that there were 105 volunteers entitled to the benefits of the appropriation, and the monthly amount, to which they were entitled, was \$483, or \$5,796 per annum, without reference to future enlistments. It was evident to the committee that the county could not meet its liabilities as fast as they accrued, and county warrants must depreciate to a merely nominal sum, thus defeating the very object of the appropriation.

To remedy this state of affairs; it was proposed: 1st. That commissioned officers, who are receiving the benefits of the appropriation, in view of the ample pay they are receiving from the government, be requested to release the county absolutely from further payments to themselves or their families. 2d. All single men, volunteers from this county, not having parents or friends dependent on them for support, be requested to sign an obligation, deferring further claims to the end of the war. 3d. That those having families, be also requested to sign an obligation, or agreement, deferring the payment of one-third of their accruing claims until the close of the war. 4th. That a promise shall be inserted in said agreement, in relation to the deferred claims, that they shall not be assignable, and that they shall only inure to the benefit of the claimants and their families; and that \$3,000 only of the deferred claims shall be paid in any one year. It was proposed also that the clerk embody the above agreement in proper form, and forward them at the earliest practical moment to Capts. Gardner,

Powers and Crawford, with a request that action be taken thereon by those intended, at the earliest possible moment. The report closed with the following proposed resolution: Resolved, that all bounties and payments to persons, who may enlist in the service of this state, or the United States, hereafter, from this county, shall cease from this date."

This report was laid on the table, by a vote of 9 to 3.

The minority report recited the inability of the county to bear the burden of the appropriation, and proposed the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That said appropriation, as far as volunteers to those that do not need assistance, that have volunteered in the service of the state, or of the United States—residents of this county—be discontinued from and after this date; and that families of volunteers, who are in need of assistance, have such appropriation from the county as the supervisors or trustees of their respective townships shall deem necessary. And be it further

Resolved, That the volunteers from this county, who shall, or have returned sick, or in any way disabled in the service, have such appropriation as may be deemed necessary by the county board of supervisors. And further, that the wives and children, or those dependent upon the volunteers, who have been killed in battle, or died in the service of this state, or the United States, shall be liberally provided for by the county board of supervisors."

A motion to table the minority report was lost, by a vote of 3 to 9, but at a subsequent meeting, a motion to table prevailed.

The following resolution was offered by D. A. Jackson, and was adopted by a vote of 9 to 3.

"Resolved, That the appropriation made by the board of supervisors of this county, at the June meeting, 1861, for the benefit of volunteers and their families, be and the same is, hereby repealed, from and after the 6th day of January, 1862."

D. A. Jackson, D. R. Kerby and J. H. Vantassell were appointed a committee to draft a resolution as to the manner of providing for the destitute families of Chickasaw county volunteers. The resolution was immediately prepared, received, and the committee discharged. At the evening session, the resolution was put upon its passage and unanimously adopted as follows:

"Whereas, A number of our fellow citizens have volunteered, and entered into the military service of the government, leaving families in destitute circumstances; therefore, be it

"Resolved by the board, That all those who have volunteered from this county, and are in actual service of this state, or the United States; who may have families, residents of this county; that all those families of such volunteers, who are only receiving pay as private soldiers, are by this board considered to be entitled to an appropriation authorized by law to be made by the county board of supervisors, for the benefit of those families who are in destitute circumstances. And it is hereby:

"Resolved, by this board, That an appropriation of \$4.00 per month be made to the wives of said volunteers, and \$1.00 per month to each child under twelve years of age, and \$4.00 per month to the parents of such volunteers, for support; to be paid from the county treasury, as hereinafter provided. And be it further.

"Resolved, That although the families of said volunteers may remove from the county, for temporary stay, during the absence of the aforesaid volunteers, they still are considered by the board as residents of this county. And, be it further

"Resolved, That non-commissioned officers shall be deemed as privates, so far as relates to this appropriation."

A pension of \$4.00 per month to widows, and \$1.00 per month to each child of deceased volunteers, was unanimously voted.

On examination of the books in relation to the appropriation to volunteers, the board found the amount in warrants issued as bounty to volunteers, \$1,100.21; amount in warrants issued as monthly appropriations, \$1,279; amount now due as monthly appropriations to January 6th, 1862, \$637.48; total, \$3,016.69.

Teamsters from the county, in the service of the government, were declared not entitled to the benefit of the county appropriation.

At the September meeting, 1862, it was resolved to ask the general assembly of the state to authorize the board of supervisors of Chickasaw county to levy an additional tax of three mills, to meet the deficiency in the county funds on account of the appropriations to the families of volunteers. At the October meeting, it was resolved to levy a tax of four mills for the benefit of the fami-

lies of volunteers, to be called the volunteer fund. At an adjourned meeting of the November term, 1862, the appropriation was reduced to \$2.00 per month for the wife, and \$1.00 per month for each child. At the January meeting, 1864, the appropriation was increased to \$4.00 per month for grown persons and \$1.00 per month for children under the age of twelve years, "in consideration of the high price of necessities, and the hardness of the winter," this increase to continue until the June term.

The following appears among the proceedings of the same meeting:

"Whereas, G. R. Rowley, of Chickasaw county, Iowa, is entitled to the banner, by having more sons in the United States service than any other man in said county; he being poor and dependent entirely on the efforts of one son only for his and his wife's support; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the sum of \$5.00 per month be allowed him from the county until further action by this board."

At the September meeting, 1864, the following was spread upon the minutes:

"The friends of the volunteers now in the field, who enlisted in 1861, are requested to notify them that they will be entitled to \$3.00 per month from the time of their enlistment up to the time they may be honorably discharged from the service."

At the November meeting 1864. It was adopted "That it is the sense of the board, that when a drafted man of this county's families pays a substitute to take his place, that the drafted man's family is to receive the appropriation from the county the same as if said drafted man was in the service personally.

And upon the records of the board for the January meeting of 1865, we find the following:

"Resolved, That the clerk be authorized to issue county warrants for full pay to the families of volunteers, from this date, to-wit: The sum of four dollars per month to the wives and parents of the volunteers, and one dollar per month for each child under twelve years of age, dependent on the volunteer for support. Provided, That this apply only to such as volunteered and entered the service prior to November, 1862, and also that the clerk draw warrants for the sum of two dollars per month to the wife, and parents of volunteers, and fifty cents per month for each

child under twelve years of age dependent upon the volunteers for support this to apply to all who entered the service since November, 1862."

At the regular session of the board of supervisors in September, 1865, a resolution was passed; allowing the widows of all deceased soldiers to draw the allowance, from the county for six months after death of the husband.

And at a meeting in October of the same year, the following resolution appears on the minutes, as having been carried: Resolved, That all who have enlisted and served as privates, in the U. S. army, from Chickasaw county during the late war, be placed on the same footing, and paid the same monthly wages as by resolution of this board is allowed to volunteers who have enlisted since January 1st, 1862, excepting such regulars from the benefit of this resolution as may have received \$300, and upwards, as bounty from the United States.

#### SEVENTH IOWA INFANTRY.

During the heats of the summer of 1861, while the pulse of the nation beat with feverish intensity, while all hearts were aching with the dread of civil war, and the sound of men flocking to arms, in their country's cause, resounded through all the hills and valleys, forests and prairies of this northland; then the spirit of Chickasaw county was stirred, and men came forward, with alacrity, at the call of the government, for its preservation, company B., seventh regiment of Iowa volunteers was raised, and composed almost entirely of the sons of Chickasaw, Capt. Gideon Gardner and all the officers being residents of the county.

The history of the company is nearly always the history of the regiment, especially so in infantry, therefore we give an abridged account of the movements of the regiment for which we are indebted to the official reports.

"The seventh Iowa infantry was organized at Burlington, Iowa, in 1861. The first companies were mustered into the United States service on the 24th of July, and the last company, I, was mustered in on the 2d day of August. Col. J. G. Lauman was in command of the regiment. On the 6th day of August they broke camp marched to Burlington under a burning hot sun and embarked on the steamer Jennie Whipple for St. Louis. Arrived at St. Louis on the morning of the 8th, and were marched to the

arsenal, where they bivouacked for several days. Moved from thence to Jefferson Barracks, where they remained for several more days; were then ordered to St. Louis, where the regiment was armed, the flank companies with Springfield rifles, and the other eight companies with the improved Springfield muskets. The same night they took the cars, and went to Pilot Knob, and after remaining there half a day, marched to Ironton, where the regiment went into camp and remained there, drilling and getting into discipline for two weeks, and were then ordered through southeast Missouri to Cape Girardeau. This commenced the first campaign of the regiment. The division consisted of six regiments, and was commanded by Brig. Gen'l. B. M. Prentiss. Arriving at Jackson, Mo., during the last days of August, the command remained one week, then moved to the cape, where they took transports, and went to Cairo, and were sent from thence to what was afterwards known as Fort Holt, Kentucky. The ground was covered with a dense forest and under growth, but in a short time the camp was cleared up, and policed, and all hands were comfortable. The regiment remained at Holt about two weeks when it was moved down to Mayfield creek, and established camp Crittenden, distant from the Mississippi river about three miles, and from Columbus the rebel stronghold, about eight. Here Lieut. Col. Wentz reported to the regiment for duty. Remaining but a short time at camp Crittenden, the regiment was moved to Fort Jefferson, on the Mississippi, nearly opposite to Norfolk, Mo.

During their stay at Fort Jefferson they still kept a strong picketguard at their old camp Crittenden, at which place the regiment had its first skirmish, in which one man was slightly wounded.

On the 6th of November, 1861, the regiment received orders to embark on transports, and about night steamed down the Mississippi a few miles rounded to, and lay all night at Lucas Bend. Early on the morning of the 7th, they got under way and landed on the Missouri shore about three miles above Belmont; disembarking there the troops formed line of battle, and proceeded to the attack of the latter place. The seventh Iowa and twenty-second Illinois were brigaded together and commanded by Col. Dougherty of the latter regiment. The battle of Belmont was a bloody day for the seventh; which went into fight



with but eight companies numbering in all 410 men; two companies, K. and G. being detailed as fleet guard were not in the engagement. The regiment lost, in killed, wounded and missing, 237 men. It was on this field that the gallant and lamented Wentz fell with many other brave officers, viz: G. W. S. Dodge, second Lieut. company B.; Benj. Ream, second Lieut. company C.; Chas. Gardner, second Lieut. company I.; Col. Lauman and Major Rice were both severely wounded, as were also Capt. Gardner, company B.; Capt. Harper, company D.; Capt. Parrott, company E.; and Capt. Kitteridge, company F.

It was in this fight that Iowa officers and soldiers proved to the world that they were made of the right kind of material, and added to the lustre of our young and gallant state.

On the evening of the 7th of November, 1861, the shattered remnant of the seventh Iowa arrived at Bird's Point, where they remained a few days, and were then ordered to St. Louis, Missouri, to rest and recruit. This terminated the first battle for this brave and gallant host of heroes.

On the 13th of January, 1862, the seventh were embarked at St. Louis, on the steamer Continental, and although the weather was intensely cold, which detained the boat, finally got under way and proceeded down the river about twenty miles; but when that distance was reached the floating ice, with which the river was filled, blocked the boat with its freight of brave boys in blue and was frozen in. Here they staid for two days, until the cold had so congealed the ice that it was solid enough, when the regiment with its baggage was removed to the shore, and took the railroad, and returned to St. Louis. The weather was intensely cold, but the good citizens of that city tendered Col. Lauman the use of the chamber of commerce to shelter his men in, and the boys found comfort in the hot coffee, warm rooms, etc., so generously provided by their friends.

Next morning, the regiment started for Cairo, marching through Illinois and after reaching that place moved forward again. After a fatiguing march, interspersed with some delays for rest, the regiment was ordered to go up the Tennessee, with balance of the troops to attack Fort Henry.

Landing on the morning of the 6th, of February, they took up the line of march to invest the fort, but learned that Commodore

Foote had already taken it before their arrival. After remaining a week at the Fort, on the 12th of February, 1862, the march was resumed with Fort Donelson as the objective point, which point was reached next day. About 5 p. m., the seventh was ordered to the front to support battery H., first Missouri light artillery; and spent the night without shelter or blankets. The next day the regiment was ordered to take its place with the brigade as that was going into action. But after reaching headquarters it was not considered advisable to make the charge so the brigade remained all day in line of battle until the shades of night gave the necessary cover for their removal.

The weather became quite boisterous. A heavy shower of rain falling at midnight, but before morning had dawned it had changed to snow, and the face of the earth was covered with a wintry mantle, and the temperature remaining cold, the men suffered much, owing to their exposed positions and general want of blankets.

On the morning of the 15th the skirmishers were deployed, and at 2 p. m. the brigade was ordered to charge the rebel works. The second Iowa never having been in a fight, having only joined the brigade on Friday the 14th, was given the post of honor in leading the charge, supported by the balance of the brigade. The seventh Iowa moved up to the works in fine style, entered the sally-port, and gained, with the second Iowa, a position inside the rebel works. Then were ordered to fall back and take shelter on the outside of the fortification, where they bivouacked all night without fires, and suffered much from the inclemency of the weather. Next morning, Sunday, February 16th, when the day dawned, the white flag from the grim summit of Fort Donelson, told quite plainly that the strife for its mastery was ended, and in a short time our boys were marching in and taking possession. So fell this noted rebel stronghold, and the gallant seventh Iowa claims its meed of praise.

Here the regiment remained for three weeks, and were then ordered to proceed up the Tennessee river on transports to Pittsburg Landing. They were nearly a week making the voyage, being unable to land, owing to the tempestuous weather. The regiment remained in camp until the memorable 6th of April, 1862, when Beauregard with his host of rebels attacked our whole line.

The 7th Iowa was on parade for inspection when the battle commenced, but in a few minutes it was moved to the front, where it was engaged the balance of the day. About four o'clock P. M. the whole brigade was ordered to fall back, in which retrograde movement Gen. W. H. L. Wallace, commanding the division, fell, and the 7th lost one officer, color-sergeant, and seven men killed, and a number wounded. The regiment was rallied in the edge of the timber, and helped stop the advance of the rebels, and a short time afterwards fell back to the main road, where the weary troops bivouacked for the night, the rain falling in torrents.

The next morning the whole line advanced on the rebels, and before noon they were in full rout. At night the regiment returned to the old camp and got a warm supper, the first they had had in two days, but were compelled to lie without shelter, the tents being occupied by the wounded of both armies. They remained in camp here until the 27th of April, when the whole army moved to the memorable siege of Corinth. On this march the regiment used the shovel for the first time in throwing up works and rifle pits, and about the first of June, when contiguous to Corinth, it was ascertained that the enemy had evacuated it, and the seventh, with the division, was ordered in pursuit of the enemy. After an arduous tramp without coming up with them, it returned and went into camp near Corinth and remained quiet for the balance of the summer, doing picket and guard duty.

On the 17th the regiment reached Iuka, having left camp two days before, and from Gen. Grant's order No. 1, the division to which it was attached, deserves as much credit and praise as the troops which were actually engaged.

Leaving Iuka the same night, the regiment tramped back to their old quarter at Camp Montgomery, where they remained until the 3d of October, 1862, when they were ordered to the front to meet the forces of Van Dorn and Price. The seventh was on hand, and a more gallant fight the men never made. On the 3d of October, in the afternoon, Gen. Dains, who commanded the division when our weak line was driven back to Fort Robinette, placed the seventh Iowa in a position of honor in support of a battery, which was then stationed at the above fort. At 8 A. M. the next day they were thrown out to support skirmishers, the enemy being in strong force in front. The skirmish line fell back,

and upon the fact being reported to Gen. Dains, he ordered the seventh to take position on their old ground, and but a few minutes elapsed before the enemy appeared in their front in vast numbers; but thanks to the nerve of Iowa's sons, the second and seventh Iowa held the ridge, when there was no support from the balance of the division. Gen. Sweeny, who was in command of the brigade, gave the order for them to retire a short distance, and in his official report made special mention of the two regiments in question.

The seventh Iowa retired about fifty yards, when they were rallied and made a charge on the enemy, which put him to flight, and the victory was won. Returned next day to Corinth, where they remained until the 6th, when they moved to Rienzi, from thence to Kossuth, then to Boneyard, where they staid a month, then returned to Corinth, where under tents they spent the winter. In March, 1863, the regiment went to Bethel, Tenn., where it remained until June 1st, when it was returned to Corinth. After much such marching and countermarching all summer, they arrived November 11, 1863, at Pulaski, Tenn., where they went into camp doing escort duty for the various trains of supplies.

About the 20th of December, 1863, orders were received allowing men who had been in the service two years to veteranize, and in a few days three-fourths of the men present for duty re-enlisted. The regiment started home on the 7th of January, 1864, and were furloughed for thirty days from the 20th of January. On the 20th of February the boys commenced to rendezvous at Keokuk with some two hundred recruits, which were mustered into the regiment. Left Keokuk February 27th, and proceeded to Prospect, Tenn., which point they garrisoned until the 27th of April, when they started on the ever-memorable Atlanta campaign.

This march was one of continual skirmishing and fighting. The seventh, upon crossing the Oostanaula river, at Lay's ferry, May 15th, was thrown to the front to feel the enemy, who were in strong force, and but a few minutes sufficed to bring on the deadly conflict, which lasted but a few moments, and terminated in the complete rout of the rebels, consisting of an entire division commanded by Gen. Walker. The seventh Iowa did not number four hundred muskets, and yet out of this small number it lost sixty-five men, killed and wounded, inside of ten minutes. No

regiment in the United States service ever behaved with more gallantry, and it was with difficulty that the men could be drawn off from a force five times their number.

This was the first severe fighting of the campaign, but it continued from that time until the first of September, including Rome cross-roads, Dallas, New Hope Church, Big Shanty, Kenesaw Mountain, Nick-a-Jack creek, and in close proximity to Atlanta, in all of which the seventh bore an honorable part. On the 22d of July, during the engagement in which Gen. McPherson fell, the regiment was an active participant, and added new laurels to her former bright wreath.

The regiment moved from the front of Atlanta, and struck the West Point railroad, near Palmetto, and from thence to Jonesboro, supporting Kilpatrick's cavalry in driving the enemy, and was with the command under Gen. Sherman, which compelled Hood to evacuate Atlanta. The regiment went by rail from East Point to Rome, Ga., where it arrived September 20th. It was then ordered to Allatoona on the 4th of October, but did not reach there in time to take part in the bloody fray of the 5th. By orders received the regiment returned to Rome on the 7th of October, and remained until November 11th, when they took up the line of march with that dauntless band of heroes, who marched with Sherman from Atlanta through the heart of Georgia, and with that matchless captain entered the city of Savannah December 21, 1864.

#### HISTORY OF THE THIRTY EIGHTH IOWA INFANTRY.

In the fall of 1862, in response to a call for more troops, made by President Lincoln, the county felt its patriotism again aroused, and a full company was raised to go to the front. This was incorporated in the 38th Iowa Infantry, and was known as company C., and as we before traced the movements of the Chickasaw boys by their regiment, we will once again follow their fortunes.

The regiment was organized at Dubuque, and mustered into the United States service November 4, 1862. The aggregate number at that date being 910 men.

In obedience to orders received, the regiment moved from the camp of organization December 15, 1862, and arrived at Benton barracks, St. Louis, December 17th, by way of the Illinois Central railroad. On the 28th they were ordered by Maj. Gen. Curtis, commanding the department of the Missouri, to report at Helena,

Ark. Embarking on board the steamer Platte Valley, the regiment proceeded down the river as far as Columbus, Ky., where it was stopped on the 30th and ordered by Brig. Gen. Davies, commanding department of Columbus, on an expedition out on the Ohio and Mobile railroad, to Union City, under the command of Col. Moore, of the twenty-fourth Missouri. On their arrival there the next day the forces were drawn up in line of battle to receive the enemy, after patiently waiting for it all day, they failed to make its appearance.

January 1, 1863, orders were received from Brig. Gen. Davies for the expedition to return to Columbus, where further orders were awaiting the regiment from Gen. Curtis, to re-embark on the steamer and proceed to New Madrid, Mo.; all orders to the contrary countermanded. On the arrival of the thirty-eighth at New Madrid, on the 2d, it took possession of Fort Thompson, which had been evacuated, magazines blown up, guns spiked and dismounted, and carriages burned, as also were the barracks. The boys, however, went to work, built new barracks, unspiked and remounted the guns, and remained at New Madrid doing guard duty until June 7th, when, by order of Gen. Curtis, the regiment embarked on the steamer Daniel G. Taylor, and proceeded down the Mississippi and up the Yazoo to Sherman's Landing, where they arrived on the 11th, and were ordered to report at Young's Point, where they arrived the same day. From thence marching across the point, and crossing the river at Warrenton on the 15th found themselves in front of the enemies' works at Vicksburg, and on the extreme left of Grant's army. Here the regiment was assigned to the first brigade, second division, thirteenth army corps, and were constantly engaged in filling details, supporting the first Missouri battery, constructing earthworks, digging rifle-pits, and advancing our lines until the glorious 4th of July, when the city capitulated.

Many of the regiment were overcome by the heat and the arduous duty, and the miasma which was constantly arising from the swamp on whose border the regiment was encamped, was the cause of fevers and disorders which arose, and reduced it to half its original number. Disease thinned the ranks each day while the casualties resulting from the siege were slight.

July 5th, in company with the other troops, it marched into the

works, and on the 12th, while embarking for Port Hudson, the news was brought of the capture of that place, and the regiment ordered up the Yazoo river.

It was with Gen. Herron at the capture of Yazoo City, and in the raid into the country of the Big Black river, from which they returned laden with horses, cotton, mules, and negroes.

Returned to Vicksburg on the 21st, and on the 25th again embarked for Port Hudson, La., where it arrived the 27th. At this place the regiment was so reduced by sickness, that the morning report for August 13th shows only eight officers and twenty men fit for duty. Many valuable officers were lost, among whom was Col. D. H. Hughes, who died on the steamer Lebanon, August 7th.

August 15th, embarked on the steamer Sally Robinson for Carrollton, La., and arrived the following day. While at this place many who had been sent up the river sick, or had been left in the hospital at Vicksburg, rejoined the regiment, which was now again ready for the field, and joined the expedition under Gen. Banks against Texas.

The fleet sailed from New Orleans, October 23, 1863, and after experiencing a heavy gulf storm, arrived at Brazos Santiago, Texas, November 2d. The regiment with the balance of the command was landed on the 3d, and on the 6th moved forward toward Brownsville, encamping the same night on the old battle ground of Palo Alto. On the 9th the regiment advanced to Brownsville, which it found in possession of our forces, to whom it had been surrendered without opposition.

Here the regiment went into camp and continued to do guard duty until the evacuation of the place, which took place July 28, 1864, when it returned to New Orleans.

Arriving at that port on the 5th of August, the thirty-eighth was ordered again to embark on the steamer Josephine, and sailed for Mobile bay, arriving at Fort Gaines (which had been taken on the 7th), on the 9th, and were landed on Mobile point, in the rear of Fort Morgan, the same day. While here the regiment was engaged in picket and fatigue duty, until the surrender of Fort Morgan, on the morning of the 23d of August. After remaining on Mobile Point until September 8th, the regiment was ordered back to New Orleans, where it remained for some time. The

regiment was engaged in the last battle of the war, which was the taking of Fort Blakely the day before Lee's surrender. The regiment was mustered out of the service at Houston, Texas, but did not disband until its arrival in Davenport. While at Morganzie Bend, above New Orleans, the regiment was consolidated with the thirty-fourth, but still retained its old number; by this consolidation some officers were necessarily dispensed with.

#### THE FOURTH IOWA CAVALRY.

Chickasaw county raised a company for this favorite and gallant regiment, which was known as company H, and also furnished some more men for company B. The regiment was organized with Asbury B. Porter, as colonel; Thos. Drummond, as lieut. col.; S. D. Swan, J. E. Jewett, and G. A. Stone, as majors, and was mustered into the service of the United States at Mount Pleasant, November 21, 1861.

Of the service performed by the cavalry it is difficult to give a connected history, so much of it being done by detached companies, but this regiment has covered itself with unfading laurels throughout its numberless campaigns, distinguishing itself and losing men at Guntown, Miss.; Helena, Ark.; Bear Creek, Miss.; near Memphis, Tenn.; Town Creek, Miss.; Columbus, Ga.; Mechanicsburg, Miss.; Little Blue River, Ark.; Brownsville, Miss.; Ripley, Black River Bridge, and Tupelo, Miss.; Little Red River, Ark.; Granada, Miss.; Yazoo River, Miss.; White River, Ark.; Osage, Kan.; Lick Creek, Ark.; Okalona, Miss., and St. Francis River, Ark. After partaking of the hardships of many a weary campaign, and suffering the privations and losses attendant on a mounted regiment, it was mustered out at Atlanta, Ga., August 10, 1865.

#### ROSTER OF VOLUNTEERS FROM CHICKASAW COUNTY.

##### COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Major G. W. Howard,	Lieut. G. J. Tisdale,
Captain Gideon Gardner,	Lieut. Albert E. Rupe,
Captain J. H. Powers,	Lieut. John A. Green,
Captain H. C. Baldwin,	Lieut. F. W. Barron,
Captain D. E. Bronson,	Lieut. Geo. Dodge,
Captain S. S. Troy,	Lieut. F. D. Bosworth,
Captain C. W. Foster,	Lieut. E. A. Haskill,



Captain D. McTaggart,  
 Captain D. C. Crawford,  
 Lieut. W. W. Birdsall,  
 Lieut. Chas. Trout,

Lieut. J. A. Albertson,  
 Lieut. R. W. Foster,  
 Lieut. O. O. Poppleton,  
 Asst. Surg. S. C. Haynes.

The following is a list of the non-commissioned officers and privates as far as can be gathered from the reports of the State Adjutant General. It has been found almost impossible to prepare a complete list at this day, but no pains have been spared to make as full a report as possible.

### THIRD INFANTRY.

George W. Stocks.

### SEVENTH INFANTRY—CO. B.

Dudley L. Campbell,  
 Gilbert J. Tisdale,  
 Dan. McTaggart,  
 Wm. W. Birdsall,  
 Andy J. Felt,  
 Geo. S. Arnold,  
 Geo. Morse,  
 O. A. Holmes,  
 H. S. Wisner,  
 Geo. Pease,  
 C. J. Channer,  
 F. Albertson,  
 J. B. Bailey,  
 Zelotes Bailey,  
 Frank Birdwell,  
 H. Bean,  
 L. L. Bean,  
 Z. Z. Bryant,  
 Levi Carlin,  
 Allen Case,  
 D. H. Shannon,  
 E. J. Taylor,  
 Jno. Thomas,  
 Wm. Tannehill,  
 Jeff. Thomas,  
 Jno. Morse,

D. Campbell,  
 Irving M. Fisher,  
 C. M. Fisher,  
 C. W. Foster,  
 E. A. Haskell,  
 F. M. Hurley,  
 T. Horton,  
 Jas. R. Howard,  
 Benj. E. Morton,  
 A. H. Morton,  
 Jno. McGee,  
 R. H. Mills,  
 Henry W. Montrose,  
 Meltiah Nye,  
 Wm. Nurman,  
 Burton H. Poppleton,  
 Julius H. Powers,  
 Thos. E. Rollins,  
 Josiah A. Rutherford,  
 Horatio P. Smith.  
 E. M. Thayer,  
 C. F. Palmerster,  
 A. G. Strong,  
 W. H. Mills,  
 O. O. Poppleton,  
 Chas. J. Channer.

## NINTH INFANTRY—CO. E.

David VanKleick,

G. J. Tisdale.

CO. F.

D. L. Benedict,

Myron R. Benedict.

CO. H.

Wm. Everingham.

CO. I.

A. C. Johnston,

Jno. Williams,

Geo. W. Johnston,

Isaac Demott,

Jno. W. Stuart.

Sam. Sutton.

## THIRTEENTH INFANTRY—UNASSIGNED.

G. C. Reed,

A. J. Allen,

Jno. Welsh,

F. M. Drake.

## FOURTEENTH INFANTRY—CO. B.

Thos. R. Boyce,

Chas. Bird.

L. P. Hawley.

## TWENTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY—CO. G.

Jno. E. Beitler,

Richard Bean,

Frank McConnell,

Sylvester Bement,

Wm. Dyas,

W. F. Clark,

Robt. Beck,

N. W. Cotton,

Chas. Victor,

D. J. Caswell,

Jno. McConnell,

Albert Cuffell,

Newel Helms,

J. S. Dowd,

Amos F. Ripley,

Jno. Felcher,

L. S. Bullard,

B. G. Feeney,

Geo. W. Bean,

Henry Greineisen,

Jacob Beck,

Chas. Hickok,

E. W. Hall,

D. Hall.

John Harris,

Alex. Jones,

B. R. Horton,

E. Ludden,

Byron Hovey,

John McConnell,

J. W. Pratt,

J. Morris,

Smiley Sample,

Warren Parrish,

Geo. Wood,

Benj. Parker,

Jno. Rowe.

## THIRTY-FOURTH INFANTRY—CO. G.

Jas. M. Jackson,

Z. H. Morton,

John Pullar,  
C. W. Sherman,

D. D. Beynolds,  
L. H. Yeager.

## THIRTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.

Sergent Major, C. W. Foster.

## CO. A.

Culman Kelley,

## CO. C.

James N. Kerr,  
F. D. Barron,  
T. D. Cotant,  
F. Loveless,  
Henry L. Sholts,  
H. B. Trask,  
O. H. Clause,  
C. E. Tyler,  
A. B. Legg,  
C. H. Rogers,  
Wm. Johnson,  
Geo. Strong,  
James A. Glass,  
H. H. Huffinan,  
Ozro Hill,  
Jacob Horning,  
Wm. W. Hawkins,  
D. Henderson,  
M. B. Johnson,  
Henry F. Steindroph,  
S. W. Byers,  
F. M. Appleberry,  
Zenas Bigelow,  
Geo. W. Beach,  
Alvin A. Brown,  
H. Baker, Jr.  
A. M. Coffinger,  
Wm. Cotant,  
W. A. Cole,  
Richmond Carkins,  
Benj. Carter,  
D. F. Culver,

Jethro Jones,  
Henry Kepler,  
Samuel Kephart,  
C. O. Kingsberry,  
R. W. Kidder,  
J. A. King,  
J. D. Keith,  
E. G. Miller, Jr.,  
Luke Milmine,  
T. E. Mills,  
J. H. Parsons,  
H. H. Parks,  
Chas. S. Parks,  
M. C. Roby,  
W. C. Rembaugh,  
John Roe,  
Henry Shoemaker,  
Geo. Strong,  
F. F. Still,  
Chas. P. Snow,  
G. W. Simpson,  
G. C. Scripture,  
W. H. Stone,  
Jos. Stutton, Jr.,  
Chas. Stowell,  
Josiah Spencer,  
Allen Vaughn,  
N. Vaughn,  
A. Vantassell,  
John G. Wright,  
S. A. Wood,  
Abram Wortendyke,

O. J. Clapper,  
 Jos. Dupas,  
 John Dayton,  
 Geo. Demiston,  
 E. H. Ellis,  
 Geo. Forsman,  
 L. Fairbanks,

J. Weiler,  
 John C. Whittier,  
 T. W. Williams,  
 Alonzo Wheeler,  
 Allen Wheeler,  
 L. Yeager,  
 Albert Slater,

## CO. F.

Jacob Rush.

## FORTY-FIRST INFANTRY—CO. B.

Jno. W. Dixon,

Jos. Dixon.

## SECOND CAVALRY—CO. I.

Howard Weikle,  
 Jesse Weikle,

Fred Young,  
 Peter Young.

## FOURTH CAVALRY.

E. A. Haskell, 3d Brig. Q. M.

## CO. B.

Andw. Bray,  
 Thomas Legg,  
 W. G. McDonald,

George Miller,  
 Milo S. Pelton,  
 Levi M. Smith.

## CO. H.

Stephen W. Grosbeck,  
 Seth Martin,  
 D. A. Babcock,  
 E. W. Beach,  
 Norman A. Chapell,  
 T. W. Robb,  
 A. R. Toms,  
 Geo. W. Miller,  
 Wm. Doyle,  
 Oreites Wilcox,  
 D. Campbell,  
 N. J. Watson,  
 W. Reardon,  
 J. H. Stocks,  
 Jas. Albertson,  
 S. M. Legg,  
 Jas. Miller,

Chas. W. Session,  
 Jas. Rooney,  
 Henry K. Martin,  
 Geo. Patrick,  
 Jas. Arnott,  
 A. J. Bray,  
 C. A. Baldwin,  
 Martin Bigger,  
 Lewis Choate,  
 F. A. Coe,  
 H. A. Cornet,  
 And'w Gibson,  
 Adin B. Harris,  
 L. H. Huffman,  
 Zenas Thomas,  
 H. K. Thomas,  
 Thos Legg,

Geo. Miller,	C. P. Campbell,
C. K. Miller,	F. R. Coe,
M. S. Pelton,	And'w Laird,
Oliver Pelton,	Jas. Miller,
L. Patrick,	E. W. Swift,
Amos C. Rowley.	Chas. Ready.

## SIXTH CAVALRY—CO. B.

M. E. D. Witted,	M. V. Marion,
Jerome Bourcey,	T. H. Merritt,
J. H. Brown,	Frank Stephenson,
J. F. M. Clark,	Wm. F. Tucker,
V. A. Fuller,	M. S. Whitney.

## CO. C.

Francis Burdick,	M. Nolan,
Geo. Hawkins,	Fred Padden,
R. L. Bean,	J. R. Stephenson,
Daniel Blorhan,	C. H. Starboard,
M. Hinchy,	S. H. Todd.
W. McNoble,	

## CO. L.

Ambrose Legg,	L. Phillips.
---------------	--------------

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Lucius Bemet, 14th U. S. Regulars.  
Morgan A. Hance, 1st Nebraska Cavalry.



## CHAPTER XIV.

---

### RECORD OF EVENTS OCCURRING IN THE COUNTY FROM THE EARLIEST TIME TO THE PRESENT TIME CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED.

---

This chapter is largely devoted to a brief review or chronology of prominent events in the history of the county, bringing them down to the present; omitting, however, the records of elections, and the officers elected each year, as they are given elsewhere.

1836.

About this year a trading post was established, by the government, at or near where the town of Bradford now stands.

1840.

Land broke and fenced at the forks of the Cedar river for Indians to cultivate; the government treating it as a reservation.

1847.

Reported massacre of women and children, belonging to a large party of Sioux Indians, by a band of Winnebagoes on the warpath. This was in Deerfield township as now known.

1848.

Truman Merritt, the first white man to make a settlement within the boundaries of the county, located near the Cedar river, in the southwestern part of the county.

1850.

First white child born in the county, being a daughter of Truman Merritt.

T. G. Staples made the first settlement in what is now known as Stapleton township.

Terrence Cummerford, first man to locate in Utica township.

1851.

First male white child born within the limits of the county, Elmer Case, at Greenwood.

John and J. A. J. Bird and others settled at Bradford village.

1852.

First school at village of Bradford and the first one in the county.

James Lyon, afterwards the first county judge, located in what is now Utica township.

1853.

During this year the first attempt was made towards organizing the county and an election was held, but John Bird, organizing sheriff, for some reason withheld all returns and it was a failure.

The first settlement made in what is now Chickasaw township by William and Joel Bartlett, Jos. Lee, L. D. Hoisington, Samuel Monroe, James L. Frazee, and others.

Henry Shaffer located in the township of Jacksonville, being the first to do so within its limits.

The first sermon was preached during the year by Mr. Ingam at the house of John Bird at villiage of Bradford.

The first store in the county was also opened this year at the same place by J. A. J. Bird.

The first marriage license was granted to Joseph Aving and Elizabeth Jarrard, September 5.

1854.

County organized, with but one election precinct, called Bradford, May 3rd.

First license to peddle issued to L. E. Hackleton, Feb. 10, by the county court.

Commissioners, appointed for that purpose, locate the county seat at Bradford village.

First court house built the same year, being a log house, without ceiling.

Andy Sample, built the first saw mill and George Bronson the

first hotel in the county, both these at Bradford, where alone there was any settlement to amount to much. William Dow, who has the honor to be the first blacksmith also located this year.

The town of Chickasaw surveyed and platted, and the sawmill at that place erected, this year, as was also the school organized and taught by Miss Jane Billings.

September 1st, Frederick Padden, located at Fredericksburg, being the first settler in that township Samuel Marsh and others following in this same year.

The first settlement was made in Deerfield township, this year, by Almon Harris, John and Myrick Spurr, Edwin Hale and others, in May.

Hazard Green, one of the most prominent men of the early days, first settled in Jacksonville township, this year, and built the first building, in what was in later times the village of Jacksonville. He was afterwards hotel keeper, justice of the peace, postmaster and sundry other things.

The first tax levy was made this year also.

At Nashua, in Bradford township, the first settlement is recorded as occurring this year.

Wm. Millikan located in Dayton township, and established on an island in the "Wapsie," a cabin known far and wide as the "hunter's home;" this, with the location of a man by the name of Smith, was the first attempt at settlement in that township.

The first settlers in Richland township are recorded as coming in this year also, among them we find the names of J. B. Upham, Joel Parsons, and David Tingley.

1855.

It is recorded that the first church society organized in the county, was of the Congregational denomination, and was established under the ministrations of Rev. O. Littlefield during this year.

William Tucker opened the first store in the village of Chickasaw, in the spring, and the grist mill and a steam saw mill was erected during the summer of the year.

At Jacksonville, in the township of the same name, this year, was established the first store in the town, as was the postoffice.

The first settlement in Washington township dates from this year, as does that of the town of New Hampton, the first house in



the latter being a small board building, owned by David Edwards. The first store by Jacobs & Ross.

The township of Obispo was organized and an attempt made to do the same in Washington, but was a failure, being set aside for informality.

Dr. S. C. Haynes, the first physician in the county, also located this year, at Greenwood.

During this year, at Fredericksburg, Rev. S. M. Prentiss, a Baptist clergyman preached the first sermon. The first hotel and store were also erected at the same place. The following named persons also began to carry on their respective business at the village of Fredericksburg, this year, viz: Emory Combs, blacksmith; J. V. Carpenter, shoemaker; George Hillson, wagonmaker.

Postoffice established this year at New Hampton. Osgood Gowan, postmaster.

H. Bartlett, the first child born in Chickasaw township, dates his advent from this year.

The township of Chickasaw was organized  
1856

June, Rosa Padden, the first child in the township of Fredericksburg, was born. The town was also laid out, this year, by Frederick Padden and Daniel Bloxham. In the same township occurs the following events, this year: Steam saw mill erected; Methodist society organized, and the postoffice established at the "Burg," with F. Padden, as postmaster.

First election takes place since organization of county, and 296 votes cast. There was also a special election this year in aid of the McGregor, St. Paul & Miss. railroad, the vote being by a large majority in favor of such aid.

This year the county divided into various election precincts, and Deerfield and Richland townships were organized.

With this year the county seat question comes to the front. In February a petition was presented to the county court, asking that a vote be taken, at the next election, on the location of the county seat, as between Bradford and New Hampton. The petition was granted, and at the April election the question was submitted to the voters, and decided in favor of Bradford, by the board of canvassers throwing out the vote of Washington township and ten votes in Deerfield, for alleged informity. This led to lawsuits,

etc., but was finally settled in favor of New Hampton, that being the geographical centre of the county.

During the year "Brinks Folly" was erected; this was a large hotel, far in advance of the town, built at Bradford.

Deerfield township was organized April 7th of this year; W. F. Wright, organizing constable.

The first school in the town of Jacksonville was established by a party named Cole, and the village laid out and platted in March.

Miss Maggie Nichols teaches the first school in Nashua. Also, the first store, in the same place, established, being that of Smiley-Sample.

1857.

This was a hard year on the early settlers, and is now remembered by them as "starvation year," many subsisting all winter on soft corn.

In May the Jacksonville Republican, the first newspaper in the county, was established. This was followed, the next week, by the Cedar Valley News. The first was edited by Isaac Watson, and the latter by Andy J. Felt. In November of the same year, was formed a stock company, known as the Chickasaw County Republican Association, who purchased the Jacksonville paper of Watson, and changed the name of it to The Chickasaw County Republican.

The first agricultural society of the county was organized this year. This was a failure and finally collapsed.

During this year we find the first mention of the town of Nashua on the records of the county judge.

An election held in aid of the Chicago, Iowa & Minnesota railroad results in a majority in favor of such aid of said road, being 309 for and 216 against it.

Washington, Dayton, New Hampton, and Fredericksburg townships organized.

The first kiln of brick burned and first brick building erected in the county, being some out building on the place of Hiram Bailey, at Forest City.

A party by the name of Montgomery erects the first hotel in Nashua, and Andy Sample erects the first grist mill at the same place.

Saw mill at Fredericksburg destroyed by fire.

The following are among the events happening in the township of Fredericksburg, this year: First school opened by Miss Anna Bishop; the first marriage was celebrated, being that of Charles Zwick; D. B. Hanan locates as attorney; Julien house built.

Plat of New Hampton is recorded this year, and recites that Gideon Gardner, H. Hamlin, David Edwards, H. Gurley, and E. T. Runion were the original proprietors thereof.

Jno. Nicholas erects first store in Stapleton township, near Crane creek, and the township of Stapleton organized.

1858.

April 5th a vote was taken on the county seat question, as between New Hampton and Forest City. On account of alleged informality in some votes in Deerfield, and the board throwing out the entire vote of Washington township, Forest City is decided to have had the matter adjudged in its favor, and court adjourned to that place. The matter was taken to the courts, and the next year decision was given that New Hampton was entitled to the distinction of being the seat of the county government.

In many parts of the country the crops were lost, this year, by entailing much misery.

Utica and Jacksonville townships organized in March of this year.

By a vote of the county the aid in favor of the McGregor, St. Peter & Miss. river railroad was rescinded in April.

February 8th the Congregational church, at New Hampton, was organized under the name of the Pilgrim Church of New Hampton. Sawmill, at Fredericksburg, rebuilt.

Dr. Mack, the first physician in the latter town, locates.

1859.

The county seat relocated at New Hampton, where it has remained ever since.

During this year was erected at the village of Bradford the Congregational church, well known everywhere as the "Little Brown Church." This was the first church edifice, properly so called, in the county, and stands, to-day, a monument of early days. J. R. Nutting was the first pastor.

Dresden township was organized this year.

1860.

This year was made eventful by the first issue of the New Hampton Courier, a paper that still survives the vicissitudes of a newspaper life.

In April was organized the agricultural society of Chickasaw county, at New Hampton, and in September 27th and 28th was held the first exhibition of the same. This was a success, and the society still is in existence and maintains a healthy organization.

Baptist church, at Fredericksburg, organized, with Rev. E. G. Groat as pastor, as was the Presbyterian mission, of the same place, with Rev. L. R. Lockwood as minister.

First board of supervisors meet. The tocsin of war having resounded throughout the land, and the President of the United States having called for men to put down the rebellion that threatened the life of the government, the board pass a resolution, granting to all volunteers from the county a bounty and support for those dependent upon them, who are left to the tender mercies of the world.

In June, of this year, is raised a full company in the county, under the command of Captain Gideon Gardner, and which was incorporated in the famous seventh Iowa infantry regiment, and known as company "B."

In November was also raised a full company, which was attached to the fourth Iowa cavalry, and known as company "H." Besides these many men were enlisted in the county for various other regiments.

New Hampton cemetery association organized.

October, company "C," thirty-eighth Iowa infantry, was raised in the county and went to the front.

Saw mill, at Fredericksburg, destroyed by fire for the second time.

1863.

During the year the congregational church, at New Hampton, was erected. The noted Philadelphia banker, Jay Cooke, donating the sum of five hundred dollars in aid of the same.

1864.

Mary Case, appointed deputy clerk, being the first instance in the county of a woman's right to public office.

October 3d the first teachers institute held.

1865.

The Congregational church, incorporated under the laws of the state of Iowa.

Gideon Gardner, donates the land, in New Hampton, on which to build a court house for the use of the county. The contract to erect the building, was let to J. H. Powers, June 6th, and was to cost \$2,986.00.

Cornet band, at Fredericksburg, organized.

The present school house, at the same place, erected.

1866.

During the year, a committee appointed, by the board of supervisors, to let a contract, to build the bridge over Cedar river, at Nashua; and to oversee the work on the same.

1867.

The committee, appointed by the board, report that they have let the contract, to build the bridge at Nashua, to A. Spaulding, and that he has complied with the terms thereof, and said bridge is completed.

The school house at New Hampton, erected.

The city of Nashua incorporated, under the laws of the state of Iowa.

W. S. Pitts, M. D., locates in village of Fredericksburg.

1868.

During the summer of this year, the first railroad broke ground within the limits of the county. This was the Cedar Valley and Minnesota railroad, which entered the town of Nashua in July. It is now known as the Cedar Valley branch of the Illinois Central railroad.

Meeting held in Stapleton township, November 14th, appoint a committee to wait upon the officers of the Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, approaching the boundary of the county, to ask upon what terms they would put a station at or near Crane Creek.

The first settlement at the town of Lawler, dates from this year also.

Rosenbaum Brothers, start a bank in Nashua, the first in the county.

1869.

In the early summer the Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad broke the ground of Chickasaw county, and located the station at Lawler (or as it was at first called, Crane creek station.) This road was then known as the McGregor and Sioux City, but was shortly after absorbed into the present company, and known as the Iowa and Dakota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway. The settlement of the town of Lawler really dates from this year. The first postoffice was also established with J. A. Green as postmaster.

August 13, Arcana Lodge No. 274, A. F. and A. M. instituted at New Hampton.

1870.

The Chickasaw county bank, organized in January, this year.

The town of Lawler, was incorporated, with J. W. VanAuken, as mayor. Bryan J. Castle, also established the Lawler Gazette, which however, was of short life as it only run about a year.

Methodist church at Fredericksburg erected, and John H. Hiller's saloon at same place destroyed by fire.

1871.

Congregational and Catholic churches, of Lawler, organized.

Also the German Lutheran church at New Hampton organized, in March of this year.

Independent school district of Fredericksburg organized.

1872.

The poor farm purchased, by the county, of Don A. Jackson, for the sum of \$3,200, being 160 acres of land, and contract awarded A. W. Utter, New Hampton, to erect the necessary buildings, for the accomodation of the destitute.

Several churches erected during the year; notably, the Catholic and Congregational, at Lawler, and the Methodist at New Hampton.

J. V. Carpenter's residence, at Fredericksburg, burned in the spring the year.

1873.

Town of New Hampton incorporated, and first city election takes place May 21st.

Roman Catholic church at Nashua organized, and Catholic cemetery at New Hampton, established.

1874.

German Congregational church, at New Hampton, organized.

Mount Horeb Lodge, 333, A. F. and A. M. at village of Fredericksburg, established.

1875.

Chickasaw County Times, a weekly newspaper, started at Lawler, by F. M. Haislet, now owner of the New Hampton Tribune.

Cheese factory at Fredericksburg established.

1876.

There being some irregularity in the previous incorporation of the town of Lawler, a new act of incorporation was past this year.

September 2nd, a lodge of workmen organized, at New Hampton.

1877.

This year is marked by the big fire at Lawler, that wiped out nearly the entire business portion of the community. It destroyed, the Times office, the stores of Green and Lynch, E. A. Ervin, Miss E. Lawrence, J. Fitzsimmons, F. Clarkin, W. M. O'Brien, P. O'Reilly, John Nicholas, Lovejoy and McFarland, Mrs. M. F. Binns, Genshaw and Co., J. N. Baker and Co., the saloons of Fitzsimmons Bros., and John Doyle, the Lawler library, law library of D. West, the butcher shop of J. A. Real, five grain warehouses and numerous other building, and property, aggregating in value \$83,500 on which there was an insurance of only \$56,450.

The Episcopal church, at New Hampton, was organized July 30th.

Conflagration at Fredickersburg, destroying the buildings and stocks of Padden Bros., Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Stone, and A. Smith.

1878.

John Kolthoff starts the cheese factory, in Dresden township.

New church erected in Nashua, by the Methodist denomination, the finest religious edifice in the county.

Lawler Oddfellows organize a lodge.

1879.

Smith and Darrow, organize a banking office at New Hampton.

Again fire devastates the town of Lawler, burning McNevins, saloon, R. D. Parker's store King's hotel, Exchange bank and the barber shop. The loss was about seven or eight thousand dollars, but the people whose property was thus destroyed, were not discouraged, but went to work with a will and almost before the fire had died out, were making arrangements to continue their business.

First National bank of Nashua organize, with A. G. Case as president, and A. J. Felt, cashier.

1880.

Court house at New Hampton destroyed by fire, supposed to have had an incendiary origin. This necessitated a new court house and on this issue hinged the contest for the county seat of this year. Nashua, offering to build a court house and loan it to county for as long as they occupied it for that purpose, but New Hampton merchants, and business men generally, accepting the situation, donated to the county of \$5,000 toward a building. This, together with the influence of a remonstrance, signed by a majority of the voters of the county, induced the board of supervisors, to relocate the seat of county government at New Hampton and build the present elegant and commodious building which graces the city.

1881.

Again fire visits the apparently doomed city of Lawler, devouring the stores of H. S. Blackett, G. Miller, A. Bechelt, A. P. Johnson, P. O'Reiley and many other buildings, making a loss of about \$55,000, of which but a small portion is covered by insurance.

School house, at New Hampton, is also burned during the spring.

During the year, the Methodist Episcopal church, at Williamstown, is erected.

This being a good year for fires, the Dixon house, one of the oldest hotels in New Hampton is destroyed by flames.

First National bank at New Hampton, was organized December 15th.

1882.

Vote on the amendment, to prohibit the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquour, in the state results as follows: 1382 for the adoption of the amendment and 1068 against adoption.



# HISTORY OF HOWARD COUNTY.

---

## CHAPTER I.

---

INTRODUCTORY; GEOGRAPHY; GEOLOGY; RECOURCES; EARLY SETTLEMENT; NAMES OF SETTLERS, AND DATE OF LOCATION; EARLY MILLS, CHURCHES, STORES, SCHOOLS, POSTOFFICES, ETC.; FIRST BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, COURT, AND NEWSPAPERS.

---

From the early days, when the adventurer, seeking his future in this new world, landed, on the sunny shores of Virginia, when the rigid puritan, in search of the religious liberty so dear to him, moored his bark on New England's bleak and inhospitable coast, the searcher after wealth or liberty has been pushing westward, ever westward, overflowing the eastern and middle states, deluging Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, until the great tide of emigration, which is still pressing on, toward the setting sun, reached our own fair state. In 1854 quite a number came into the land, now known as Howard county, then an unbroken wilderness, emerald prairie, majestic groves, and smiling water courses—all in primeval loveliness—blest their sight; but few white men's feet had pressed its sod, and the habitations of man was represented by the skin wigwam of the Indian, or the rude shanty of the few hunters or trappers that infested the streams. Among those whose names

are mentioned as among the earliest settlers of the county, how many still are with us? Alas, their number is small and diminishing every day. Many removed from the county ere many years had flown, others followed from year to year in hopes to better their condition in other localities; others have passed to the "shining shore" of the beautiful river, while others still linger in the homes, among us, that they have reared by their industry and perseverance on these beautiful prairies of Howard county.

What changes the intervening years have brought! These wild glades and grassy meads have been converted into magnificent farms, gardens of beauty, comparatively speaking. The rude habitations of the barbarian and semi-civilized has given place to the substantial farmhouse and palatial dwelling. The camping ground of the Winnebago, Sac, Fox, and kindred tribes of red men, are now occupied by cities, towns, and villages; zig-zag trails are superceded by broad roads, and fine bridges span the streams where once the bark canoe was the only means of transport from shore to shore.

Howard county is in the extreme northern tier of counties, and the third west from the Mississippi river, and is bounded on the east by Winnesheik county, on the south by the county of Chickasaw, west by Mitchell and on the north by the state of Minnesota.

In speaking of the surface, soil, timber, and geological formation, Andreas' Atlas, says:

"This is chiefly a prairie county. The surface is undulating, and the elevation such that it is healthful and agreeable, while the landscape is beautiful and pleasing in any direction the observer may choose to look. All the rough land lies in the northeastern part, Albion township. No county in Iowa presents, in proportion to its size, less waste land than Howard.

The soil is very uniform; it is a black loam, with clay sub-soil. In some places the loam reaches to the underlying limestone formation. In point of productive worth it can not be excelled, and all grains, grasses, and cereals common to highly valuable agricultural districts, succeed well.

The timber region embraces a small proportion of Howard county, probably one-twelfth. A large proportion of this is young timber of different varieties, but chiefly oak and poplar, but small

bodies of burr oak may be found about the county at various points, skirting the rich prairies. There is also considerable timber along the western Wapsipinicon, and in places along the other streams.

The rock basis of Howard county, in the northeast corner, belongs to the Lower Silurian age. On the southwest nearly one-half its area lies within the Devonian region. The intervening space is that of the Niagara limestone of the Upper Silurian age. There are frequent exposures of rock along nearly all the streams, furnishing good quarries of excellent building stone and lime."

The Wapsipinicon flows through the county, while the Little Wapsipinicon rises within the limits of the county. The derivation of the name is Indian, and there seems to be some question as to the exact meaning, but on the authority of Antoine Le Claire, of Davenport, one of the best Indian linguists of his day, it is a corruption of Wau-bis-e-pin-e-ka, and translated, would be Waubis, white; pineka, potato; so that, if rendered into English, it would be the White Potato river.

The Upper Iowa river, the largest stream in the county, pursues a winding course, running through the northern tiers of townships in a general easterly direction. The headwaters of the Turkey river is near the center of the county in the township of Howard, Center, and Paris. Crane creek waters a large part of the county, flowing in a southeasterly course, rising in Jamestown township, and traversing the entire county. The Upper Iowa affords a very excellent water power, which is improved to a considerable extent. These streams, with their numerous affluents, well supply the county with never-failing water—the dryest season failing to produce a lack of that necessity.

The natural resources of the county are great, but the loss of the wheat crop of 1878 has paralyzed the energies of many farmers, and business seems to stagnate, but under the judicious management of the present the outlook is good, and we may soon see Howard take the place among the counties which it should hold—that of a leader. The farming community have seen the folly of sticking to the raising of wheat alone, and the fine herds of cattle and droves of swine testify to the increasing prosperity of the people.

The first white man that we have any record of, that inhabited

this county. is said, by reliable tradition, to have been one Hiram Johnson, of whom it is told that he erected a cabin and settled near Oregon Grove, but as he never broke up or cultivated any land, but subsisted by hunting and fishing; the old settlers disclaim all right of his to be considered in the light of one of themselves. The date of his location was December, 1851. But the actual pre-emptors, as they were called, did not attempt anything until spring of 1853, when the tide of emigration first cast its ripples this way; we give below the list of all the early settlers, whose names we could learn with the year of their incoming. Many more were there, but time has wrapped their names in his oblivious mantle, and it is impossible to find any record of them. Those who first located in

1853,

were Henry Brown, in May, in Oakdale; Daniel Crowell and Andrew Nelson, in the spring, in Albion; Wm. Cottrell, Thos. Lewis, H. Shuttleworth, and Wm. Brown, at New Oregon; Owen Sprague, Wm. Harlow, Thos. Fitzgerald, Thos. Granathan, and — Noonan, at Vernon Springs.

1854.

S. M. Cole, George Schofield, J. F. Mitchell, Jas. G. Upton, E. Gillett, M. G. Goss, M. L. Goss, M. L. Shook, H. Blodgett, J. M. Fields, Thos. Lewis, and C. M. Munson, in Vernon Springs township; R. S. Buckminster, A. D. C. and Jos. Knowlton, Jno. Adam, R. E. Bassett, Benj. and Geo. Gardner, Oscar Cheseboro, and the three Mertimers in Forest City township; Jared Sigler and Chas. Salmon, in Saratoga; C. S. Thurber, and L. Aspinall, in Albion; A. Pooler, Jos. Hall, Lemuel Potter, Martin Boardman, Edward Butters and W. P. Hough, in Afton; W. S. Pettibone, in Howard; Robt. Jerod, Josiah Laws, O. M. Thayer, M. Gates, in Oakdale; A. W. Kingsley, Norman Freeman, C. M. Sawyer, in Chester.

1855.

Thos. Griffin and Patrick Richards, in Paris; Joseph Daniels, S. L. Cary and G. M. Van Leuvan, in Forest City, Augustus Beadle, in Vernon Springs; Oliver Arnold, Thos. Osborne, H. D. Lapham, and W. D. Darrow, in Albion; Royal O. Thayer, Alfred Eldridge, W. E. Thayer, Ira Eldridge, Michael Creamer, Patrick Mullen, and Aseph Webster, in Howard Center township.

C. D. Cutting, Geo. Edward, Stephen and Albert Tuples, Edward Irish, Samuel Hallett, Willis Spencer, David Patterson, Thos. DeMoss, L. Fassett, Wm. and Dennis Rice, James E. Bennett, James A. Cutting, D. P. Bradford, John Moffitt, Lyman Southard, Milo S. Torsey, Hazen Ricker, John Fiefield, Asel Wilmot, and Luther Titeum, in the present township of Jamestown.

1856.

J. S. Sturgis, in Paris; Wm. Conery, Jno. F. Thayer, W. A. and Calvin F. Webster, Henry A. Cook, Laban Hassett, and Lawrence Long, in Howard Center; and Darius and Smith Seeley in the same.

One of the first locations, chosen by the pioneers and, a favorite one for many years, was at "Oregon Grove," as it was called, now known as New Oregon and Vernon Springs; here in the fine timber on the Turkey river, the early settler pitched his tent, rearing his humble log cabin and breaking the sod put in his little crop; here he first essayed to wring from the reluctant earth the living for himself and family, which was his only ambition; not knowing that he was planting the germs of the civilization that has borne such grand fruit in these later days. Although but thirty years have elapsed since the plough first broke the grassy covering of mother earth in the county, since the first cabin was erected within its boundaries; it has grown with a mighty growth in spite of many adverse circumstances, until it has become a garden spot; teeming with rich and fertile farms.

Of its natural resources and present status it may be said, that there is no swamp or waste lands in the county, and over 90 per cent. of the lands are improved, that is to say, the land is broken up and some cheap buildings built for present use until money enough is made out of the land to build better ones; occasionally the old temporary buildings are torn down and good farm houses and barns built in their stead; but as a rule the first buildings erected on a farm have not been improved upon. Groves have been planted and native timber generally taken care of, so that there is plenty of timber for all time to come, provided it is not wantonly destroyed and wasted. There is an abundance of good pure water to be had wherever wanted by digging for it. It is found at an average of about twenty feet from the surface.

The surface of the county is undulating, not bluffy, affording excellent drainage. The pure running water in the numerous streams, with an absence of swamps and stagnant sloughs, renders the atmosphere salubrious at all seasons. Malarious diseases, and that scourge of some of the Eastern and Southern States, the fever and ague, are seldom if ever known.

#### THE FINANCES

of the county are in a very healthy condition indeed, the total indebtedness being only \$5,600, which is bonded and drawing interest at 6 per cent. There is no floating debt and no probabilities that the future expenditures necessary to run the county will ever exceed the present low levy. Taxes are not burdensome and are growing lighter every year.

Howard county is not situated away out on the frontier. It is the third county west from the Mississippi river in the northern tier of counties, and has a population of 10,837, as shown by the census taken last June. Cresco, the county seat has a population of 1,875. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway passes through the northeastern and northern portions of the county, and two more lines are being surveyed and grade stakes set through the western part of the county now, both of which will probably be built during the coming season.

The reason for the present depression in the price of land, is not because the land is poor in quality, but because so many of the farmers have, to quote Beecher, "tried to carry all their eggs in one basket," to-wit: raised nothing but wheat.

Still good improved land is worth from twenty to thirty dollars per acre.

#### THE SOIL

is a dark, deep sandy loam, no alkali, with a lime stone and clay subsoil, and is very productive of all kinds of crops, especially the different varieties of grasses. Kentucky blue grass can be grown plentifully with ease. Kentucky herself cannot compete with our prairies in the production of the famous forage plant. In fact blue grass and white clover are taking the place of the native grasses wherever the land is pastured to any extent. Timothy and clover are a sure and immense crop; in short, there is no end to the capabilities of this soil for all this class of products. Corn, oats, barley, and flax, are always sure crops and yield largely. All kinds of root

crops do well and yield enormously. Nearly all kinds of fruits are grown successfully. Wheat has always been a sure and profitable crop until within a few years. In 1876 our people experienced their first set back in wheat raising; the wheat was struck with the rust and we had less than half a crop. In 1877 we had a good wheat crop, the yield was enormous. In 1878 the wheat crop promised a greater yield than the crop of 1877, but it was destroyed just before maturity by heavy rains and exceedingly hot weather; it was literally cooked by the hot sun and vapor, from the wet ground. In 1879 and 1880 the wheat crop failed entirely. As a rule the people in this section of Iowa with the people of southeastern Minnesota have made wheat raising a specialty, perhaps seven out of every ten of the farmers have raised nothing else but wheat, in many cases they did not raise enough corn, oats, and hay to feed their horses through the winter and would have to buy feed for them. They never raised any vegetables or garden stuff and did not keep any cattle, hogs or sheep.

#### THE CLIMATE

is healthful and invigorating. The summers are very warm; the winters are very cold. Yet neither of these seasons is ordinarily oppressive. for the hot days of summer are usually followed by cool, clear nights, and the winters are particularly distinguished for a dry, pure and invigorating atmosphere. Cyclones, hurricanes, whirlwinds and water spouts have never been known in this section. The formation of the face of the country is such, that storms of this class are either broken up or turned aside long before they reach us. The terrible "blizzards" that used to sweep over the country every winter when the country was new have lost their dangerous element. The fences and numerous groves planted on the different farms break their force, so that now it is not any more uncomfortable or dangerous to travel through the country here during the winter than in any of the Eastern States.

#### THE PUBLIC OR FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM

of Iowa is noted for being the best of any in the United States, and the schools in Howard county are of the best, and the high school of Cresco is not surpassed in the State.

#### SOCIETY AND CHURCH PRIVILEGES

will compare favorably with any and surpass many sections of the East where there is the same population in town and country.

Nearly all denominations are represented in the towns, and churches are built at convenient distances through the county.

The people as a rule are intelligent, well informed, industrious temperate and law abiding citizens.

Contrast the first feeble attempts at settlement, with the above, and then if you can, say that the future of Howard county does not seem grand. If in the brief years that have elapsed since the foot of the first white man trod this virgin land, so much improvement has been made, may we not look for much more in the years to come.

But everything has its beginning, and the settlement of the county was, of course, no exception to the rule. We are told that in 1853, the first saw mill was erected, near what is now the town of Vernon Springs, on the Turkey river; it was in the grove, and built and owned by Oren Sprague. This was a great convenience to those who shortly came into the country. And for many years lumber was hauled from it to all parts of the country. In the summer and fall of 1854, however, another saw mill was erected by W. Harlow, about one and a half miles from the present site of New Oregon; and in February, 1856, another was erected on the Cedar river, in Jamestown, by a company, of whom James D. Cutting, D. P. Bradford, John Moffett and Lyman Southard were members. The first grist mill was erected in Foreston about 1854, and in the summer of 1855, the second was built at Vernon Springs, on the Turkey river.

The first store ever opened for business, within the limits of the county, was at Vernon Springs. Here, in the year 1854, Henry Milder, put up a building, and opened a store, where was kept the usual miscellaneous stock of the early merchants. This store was known for many years, far and wide, as the "blue store," from the color with which its owner saw fit to decorate its front. Here, to the "store" came all the pioneers, to buy their groceries, etc., and sit around the store in winter and exchange opinions on politics, crop prospects, local gossip, etc, as the manner of such is yet to this day.

Miss Harriett Cole, has the honor of being the first to teach a school in Howard county. In 1854 it was first opened in a little log cabin, and she was installed as the first teacher, and her fitness for the position is testified to, by many of her pupils, and by the



fact that she has continued to wield the ferule for so many years.

The pioneer church was one organized at the town of New Oregon, in 1856, under the pastorate of Rev. John W. Windsor, to whose energy and perserverence it owes its inception and origin. It was of the Congregational denomination, and still existed when the town of Cresco came into being, when finding that many of its members were moving to that city, the church was transferred there also, and preserves its existance with an unbroken chain from the earliest church unto the present time. In later years many other church organizations have sprung into being, which are mentioned elsewhere.

In 1854 a postoffice was established at "Oregon Grove", which was the first in the county. Hiram Johnson was the first postmaster, acting as such for a short time; as before his commission could reach him in those days of slow mail facilities, he removed from the county and state; going to Carmonia, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he resided a few short years and then emigrated to California, where he died. S. M. Cole was then commissioned as postmaster, being the first that was legally and truly such. The office was at his house in New Oregon township about three miles from where Cresco now stands. This office he held until 1857, when J. S. Lawver succeeded him and moved the post-office to village of New Oregon.

In regard to who was the first child born in the county, there seems to be some dispute, but out of all the contradictory reports we have gathered, the fact seems to be that Lucy Thurber should enjoy that pre-eminence. This may be an error, but the weight of evidence seems to point that way.

The first male child born in the county was Jacob Harlow, whose advent occurred in October, 1854. A son of Jacob Kramer's was born April 1855, and C. S. Thurber, jr., came into being August 27, 1855. We have been very particular to give these dates, as the question seems to have been discussed and disputed, and we have taken pains to give the facts as they really occurred.

The first record of any marriage in the county, relates, that on February 21, 1856, Edmund Gillett led to the hymenal altar, Miss Helen Barber.

Among the early arrivals in the new settlement, at New Oregon, then the most important village in the county, we find the names of several of the legal fraternity; among them M. V. Burdick,

who later sat upon the judicial bench, D. E. Mills, and W. R. Mead, the latter now and for many years the editor of the "Plain-dealer," later came, a gentleman by the name of Gilchrist, of whom old settlers tell a good story, which will bear repetition.

It was at a meeting of the district court, Judge Samuel Murdock, presiding. Some cause or other had given rise to a feeling of illwill between Gilchrist and Murdock, and it was continually cropping out, through all the case, which was being tried. Every point raised by Gilchrist in the interest of his client, was overruled by the bench; every question decided against him until his patience was worn out. Throwing himself into an imposing attitude, with head thrown back and arms folded majestically across his chest, when the last point was gone, he exclaimed: "My God, what shall we do now?" The answer came from Judge Murdock in the cutting, sarcastic tone he knows so well how to use: "Why, my advice would be to hire an attorney." The situation can easier be imagined than described. The roar that greeted the judge's answer, together with the sarcasm of the reply, flushed Mr. Gilchrist, and for many years he endeavored to get even with the learned jurist, but never could recover the ground lost, and finally left the place.

The first term of the district court was held at Vernon Springs, in June, 1857, Samuel Murdock being the judge, and was held in a hall rented for the purpose. At this term of the court the first naturalization papers were issued in the county to one Joseph Schafer, an alien, who desired to become a citizen of the United States.

The pioneer hotel was one kept by S. M. Cole, familiarly known throughout the county as "Matt Cole," and was the stopping place for all those who moved through New Oregon, and for M. O. Walker's stage line, of which latter Mr. Cole was the agent.

The first newspaper started was the Howard county Sentinel, established in the town of New Oregon, February 18, 1858, J. Howard Field being the editor. A fuller history of this paper will be found further on.

## CHAPTER II.

---

ORGANIZATION; RECORDS; PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARDS;  
BURNING OF THE COURT HOUSE; THE FLYING KYTE; TAX LEVYS;  
TREASURERS REPORTS; RESOLUTIONS, ETC.

---

The first mention we find of the county of Howard, viewed from a judicial point of view, is the following from the records of Chickasaw county, to which it appears to have been attached:

March term, Chickasaw county court, 1855:

"Ordered, that Howard county be divided into two election districts, dividing the same into an eastern and a western district, from a line drawn north and south through the center of the county. And that an election be held on the first Monday of April, to elect two justices of the peace and two constables in each precinct. Election to be held at the house of W. S. Pettibone, in the western district, and at the house of Geo. Schofield, in the eastern district."

The election was held in accordance with the above, and we have been so fortunate as to procure a copy of the original poll book, as returned for the western district, which we copy verbatim, as it is quite a curiosity in its way:

## POLL BOOK OF HOWARD COUNTY, IOWA:

1. John Geer.
2. A. Pooler.
3. Wm. S. Pettibone.
4. A. S. Butters.
5. Wm. P. Hough.
6. James Hall.

## TALLY LIST.

## For Justices of Peace—

Wm. S. Pettibone..... 6 votes.  
 John Harlow..... 6 votes.

## For Constables—

A. S. Butters..... 6 votes.  
 John Brown..... 6 votes.

At an election at the house of W.S. Pettibone, in Howard township, Howard county, state of Iowa, on the 2d day of April, A. D. 1855, there were six ballots cast, as follows:

## Justices of the Peace—

Wm. S. Pettibone..... 6 votes.  
 John Harlow..... 6 votes.

## Constables—

A. S. Butters..... 6 votes.  
 John Brown..... 6 votes.

## A true return,

A. POOLER,  
 W. S. PETTIBONE, } Judges of the Election.  
 A. S. BUTTERS.

Attest: WM. P. HOUGH, } Clerks of Election.  
 JAS. HALL.

The following is also an exact copy of the original petition, presented to Judge Lyon, of Chickasaw, at the July term of the county court, of Chickasaw county, 1855, which explains itself:

"To the honorable county judge of Chickasaw county:

The undersigned legal voters of Howard county respectfully ask your Honor to take the necessary steps to effect the organization of said Howard county at the coming August election:

And your petitioners will ever pray:

John Odeen, James Mahood,  
 James W. Snider, George Duffy,  
 Nye Cushing.

We are given to understand that there was considerable opposition to the organization of the county at this time, but the thing was skillfully handled, the petition presented and the order of the court issued, granting the same before any one, from whom the opposition might be expected, was aware. On the record book of the county judge we find the following, in regard to the matter:

"A petition was presented to me on the 17th day of July, 1855, for organizing Howard county.

"Ordered, that the same be granted and an election be held at the houses of W. S. Pettibone and G. W. Schofield, in said county, to elect a county judge; sheriff; recorder and treasurer; prosecuting attorney; coroner; surveyor; school fund commissioner, and a district clerk, and that Edmund Gillett be organizing sheriff to call the election on the first Monday of August, 1855.

JAS. LYON, county judge."

The election was held in accordance with the order, as above, and the officers chosen were:

County judge—James G. Upton.

Clerk—Edmund Gillett.

Recorder and treasurer—Wm. Woodward.

Sheriff—John Harlow.

Prosecuting attorney—M. V. Burdick.

The first entry we find upon the record of the new county judge, bears the date of September 15, 1855, and is an order of the court to pay D. B. Cook & Co., of Chicago, \$126.00 for books and stationery for the use of the county.

As the clerk could not write very well while holding his book or paper on his knee, the court also ordered that a desk be purchased for his use at an expense of thirty dollars.

The first regularly laid out road evidently dates from the year 1857, as we find it recorded that John C. Miles be paid for surveying road number one. A state road was also built through the southern part of the county during the same year. Before this the roads were more properly trails than surveyed and built roads, winding through the prairies and groves in zig-zags that lengthened the distance considerably. Sometimes marked and oftener not.

At the June term of the county court, 1857, it was ordered that hereafter the jury should be seated, and that twelve chairs be ordered for their accommodation.

The following proclamation was placed upon the records of the court during the July term, 1857:

STATE OF IOWA, }  
County of Howard. }

In pursuance of the code of Iowa, and at the request of a portion of the people of said county, an election is hereby ordered to be held in the several townships in said county of Howard, on the third day of August, A. D. 1857, at the places where the last April elections were held, to vote upon the question, whether the said county of Howard should take \$150,000 of the stock of the Northwestern railroad company, and issue bonds in payment therefore, bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, the principal sum to be paid in twenty years. And that a tax be levied upon the taxable property of said county for the payment of principal and interest. The said railroad company to pay the interest on said bonds, until said road is in operation to the east line of said county of Howard. Said bonds to be issued when said road shall be in operation to Decorah, Winnesheik county, and permanently located to the west line of Howard county.

The form of the vote shall be: "For the Railroad Stock."  
"Against the Railroad Stock."

Every affirmative vote shall be considered for the proposition entire.

In testimony, whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said county, this first day of July, A. D. 1857.

[SEAL.]

JAMES G. UPTON,  
County judge.

The court evidently desired the greatest light on the subject, as we find that a bill was presented and allowed at the August term, 1857, for \$2.90 to pay for candles. And at the same term the judge ordered the purchase of a safe for the county records, to be purchased of Chislet, Buckley & Co., of Dubuque, to cost 320 dollars.

Again during the October term of court, 1857, we are called on to lament the enervating effects of law, as the sheriff is ordered to purchase a stove and pipe.

There were in 1859 five townships regularly organized in the county, viz: Vernon Springs, Jamestown, Osborne, Howard Center, and Iowa. In 1858 New Oregon, Forest City, and Howard were

added to the list. This is according to the only record that survives the fire that destroyed the Court House in December, 1876.

The judge at the October term of court, 1858, fixed the following as the rate of tax:

County tax, five mills on the dollar; state tax, one and a half mill; road tax, one and a half mill; school tax, one and a half mill.

The bounties on wolf and wild cat scalps are quite numerous during this year: at every term of court many being paid.

The county seat was moved, by order of the county judge, from Howard Center to a point midway between the towns of New Oregon and Vernon Springs, where the court house was built in February, 1859, as will be more fully detailed elsewhere.

At the February term of court, 1860, a petition was received, signed by J. W. Baird and others, asking that the name of Osborne township be changed to Albion. By an order of the court, dated March 5, 1860, the prayer was granted and the name accordingly changed to the one it has borne ever since.

Under date of August 4, 1860, we find recorded that a license was issued to Cook's circus, that it might exhibit at New Oregon; this is the first that ever made its appearance within the limits of the county, and hence is a matter of record.

September 1, 1860, the first sale of delinquent taxes, those for 1857-8 and 9, occurred, and is entered in the judge's record, as slimly attended.

The tax levy, ordered by the county court for 1860, places it at: County tax, five mills on the dollar; state tax, one and a half mill, and school tax, one and a half mill.

In 1861, the mode of government for the county was changed and instead of the county judge, being, ex-officio, the ruler of the matters of government, the power was lodged in a board of supervisors, composed of one member from each organized township. January 7th, 1861, the first board met and was composed of the following gentlemen:

J. W. Barrel, of Albion; G. W. Ostrander, of Howard; T. R. Perry, of Howard Centre; T. Griffin, of Paris; S. W. Seeley, of Jamestown; J. H. Boggess, of Afton; S. Radford, of Chester; M. Niles, of Iowa river; C. M. Munson, of New Oregon; W. Strother,

of Vernon Springs; C. A. Salmon, of Saratoga; S. L. Cary, of Forest City. At the first meeting of the board, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, By the board of supervisors of Howard county, that having examined the contract entered into, by and between Darius Seeley, county judge, and the Northern Iowa Railroad company, for the conditional conveyance of the swamp lands of said county, to aid in the construction of such road, that the said contract hereby meets and has our entire approval.

"Also, Resolved, That a suitable person be sent to the meeting of the bondholders, meeting in Milwaukee, of the Milwaukee and Mississippi railroad, and also a meeting of the directors of the Northern Iowa railroad, January 18, 1861, to look after the interests of the county."

At the February meeting of the board, the committee, appointed to examine the books of the county judge, reported, that, they found the books in such inextricable confusion, that it was impossible to audit them, or make anything out of them. And they, also, found that the records of the county, as kept by the county recorder, during the year 1856, were upon loose, unbound paper, and many of them liable to be easily lost to the great detriment of the interests of the people.

June session of the board of supervisors J. H. St. John was appointed to fill the vacancy, caused by the removal from the county, of S. W. Seeley, late member of the board from Jamestown township.

The mighty march of civilization, moves onward hand in hand with crime; the clerk is instructed to purchase two pair shackles and three pair of hand cuffs for the use of the sheriff's office. This at the June session, 1861.

At the same time, the board made the rate, for the tax levy of 1861 as follows:

For county tax, four mills on the dollar; state tax, one and one-half mills; school tax, one mill and for bridge fund three-fourths of a mill.

In January, 1862, we find, that, owing to the prospective wealth of the county looming up so large, the county treasurer was unable to write with a common steel pen, and the honorable board of supervisors pass a resolution to purchase a gold one, to be the



property of the county, and to be placed in the custody of the treasurer, but without his giving any additional bonds.

At the session of the board of supervisors, held in June, 1862, a petition of the citizens of Iowa river township was granted changing the name of said township to Oakdale.

The following will show the status of the finances of the county in 1862, being the report of the treasurer, delivered June 1st, of that year:

## COUNTY FUND.

To cash in treasury at last report.....	\$ 17.89
Amount collected since.....	2173.71
Amount warrants issued.....	632.22
	<hr/>
	\$2823.82
By county warrants redeemed.....	2611.00
By cash in treasury.....	212.82
	<hr/>
	\$2823.82

## STATE TAX FUND.

To amount in the treasury, last report.....	124.59
To amount collected since.....	737.86
To amount due A. M. McCowan.....	12.13
	<hr/>
	\$874.58
By disbursements.....	874.58

## COUNTY SCHOOL FUND.

To amount in the treasury last report.....	444.23
To amount collected since.....	544.74
	<hr/>
	\$988.97
By disbursements.....	831.60
Cash in treasury.....	157.37
	<hr/>
	\$988.97

## POLL TAX FUND.

To amount collected to date.....	90.40
By amount transfered to general county fund..	90.40

## BRIDGE FUND.

To cash in treasury, last report.....	24.54
To cash collected since.....	227.86

---

 \$252.40

By amount transferred general county fund.....	252.40
--	--------

## FEDERAL TAX 1861.

To amount collected to date.....	227.41
By amount in treasury.....	227.41

During the Indian outbreak and massacres in the state of Minnesota, during the summer of 1862, many people in Howard county became seriously alarmed, and the board of supervisors passed the following resolution:

"To his excellency, Samuel J. Kirkwood, governor of the state of Iowa, or the agents acting therefore;

Believing it to be the duty of good citizens to prepare for war, especially on the era of danger from the savage foe, now ravaging our northern frontier, and desolating the homes of our fellow-citizens in the adjoining state of Minnesota, do hereby humbly request you send five hundred stand of arms, with their accouterments, to the county of Howard, and the said county pledges itself for the return of the same, excepting such as may be lost in the casualties of war."

However, before this could be acted upon, the danger had passed away and once more the community retired in peace at night, with no fear of the dreaded savage, to disturb their slumbers.

A resolution was adopted, by the board, at the September session, 1862, which recites that "owing to the unusual expense of the county in giving bounties to soldiers and their families, [The record of this may be found in the chapter devoted to war record.—ED,] and the consequent depreciation of the county warrants; therefore,

Resolved, That the clerk be, and is hereby directed, to give proper notice, and submit to the people at the next general election, the question of levying a special tax of six mills on the dollar. As to whether this election was carried out, the records are entirely silent.

At the January session, 1863, of the board, a resolution was adopted, donating all the swamp lands, belonging to the county,

to aid in the construction and equipment of the McGregor Western railroad, on condition, that the aforesaid railroad should build a road from North McGregor, westward, to intersect the said county, from east to west. The resolution was to be submitted to a vote of the people, for ratification, at the next general election, and the clerk ordered to make the necessary proclamation.

At the general election held October 19th, 1863, the people ratified the above, by a heavy majority.

At the January session, C. E. Berry resigned the position of county judge and the board appointed D. Seeley to fill the vacancy.

The treasurers report for January, 1863, shows as follows:

To cash on hand, last report.....	\$ 17.89
To amount collected during year.....	34351.72

Total.....	\$32369.61
By warrants redeemed.....	22934.78
By cash refunded.....	24.62
By delinquent county tax.....	9225.67
By rebateable county tax.....	454.39
By delinquent bridge tax.....	975.12
By rebateable bridge tax.....	19.38
By delinquent poll tax.....	443.00
By rebateable poll tax.....	292.75

Total .....	\$34369.61
-------------	------------

At the June session, 1865, of the board of supervisors, C. E. Brown, resigned, his position on the board, and James G. Upton was admitted in his place.

June 6th, 1865, S. W. Seeley, resigning his position, as county judge, the board of supervisors appointed D. O. Preston, his successor, P. T. Searles also resigning the office of sheriff, C. S. Thurber was appointed, to fill the vacancy.

The following resolution, adopted by the honorable board, at the September meeting, 1865, explains itself:

"Whereas, the building, now occupied by the county officers, of Howard county, has become so dilapidated by age, as to render it unfit for office purposes and an unsafe repository for the records of said county." And as the county is offered the first and second buildings, in his stone block, in the village of Vernon

Springs, by L. L. Halstead, for the use of the county as a court house with lease and receipt for one years rent, therefore the board ordered the records to be removed thither with the county officers and ordered also that such building be considered the court house.

October, 1865, a resolution was adopted by the board, submitting to the people the question of extending the time in the contract with the McGregor Western railroad in which to construct the railroad through the county; also in giving the said railroad the benefit of all the swamp lands in the said Howard county.

It seems, from the record, that this session of the board of supervisors, was held at Vernon Springs although the seat of county government was not removed thither. Every effort was made to have the county seat relocated. Vernon Springs renewing their offer to give the use of the Halstead block for a courthouse with sundry inducements, while New Oregon village in turn made the offer to erect in their place a brick building, and give the use of the same free of charge.

At the June session of the board, the New Oregon Plaindealer was made the official organ of the county

At the same meeting the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that a committee of 3 consisting of the chair and 2 other members, to be appointed by the chair, to solicit terms for the purchasing of a suitable farm for the support of the poor of Howard county, Iowa. That said committee report prices, location, terms, advantages, etc., of lands by them thought suitable for said purpose, at the next meeting of this board; said land not to be less in amount than one hundred and sixty acres.

The committee was also given the power, to advertise for sealed bids, for the same purpose. At the September meeting the above appointed committee submitted the following report, which was adopted, and the committee discharged: "That they have received several proposals, of farms for sale, but not any in their judgement answering the purposes of the county. Your committee further report, that in their judgement, they cannot purchase a farm, with the necessary improvements, and therefore, would recommend, if the board see fit, to purchase a piece of unimproved land and make the necessary improvements.

STEPHEN RADFORD,	} Committee.
C. W. FIELD,	
C. S. THURBER,	

The honorable board of supervisors, at the September meeting, 1866, fixed the tax levy for the year, as follows:

State, two and a half mills on the dollar; county, four mills; poll tax, fifty cents; school, one mill; bridge, three mills; insane, one mill; bounty, seven mills; relief, one mill.

The first mention of the town of Cresco, the present county seat, occurs in the record of the January session of the board of supervisors; a resolution making the Cresco Times the second official paper of Howard county. At the same meeting a petition was read, signed by Augustus Beadle and others, praying that the county papers, records, files, etc., be removed to Cresco, and making sundry proposals to build for the accommodation of the county officers and their books and papers a suitable court house.

Furthermore, an invitation was extended to the honorable board to view the proposed site for said court house. The members of the board of supervisors, by resolution, decided to accept the invitation, and it was so recorded. The clerk, being facetiously inclined, makes a marginal note to the record of the above, in one word, "Convivial."

At the same session, after having apparently "seen" the site of the proposed court house, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, By the board of supervisors of Howard county, Iowa, that the proposition of the aforesaid Beadle and others, to build a court house and furnish it free to the county, and also a hall for the use of the board of supervisors and for court purposes, be and is hereby accepted, and the sheriff is ordered to remove the records, etc., at the time contemplated, on or before June, 1. 1867."

At the meeting held in June, 1867, Thos. Sullivan was admitted as a member of the board of supervisors. At the same time the officers of the county were directed to remove their offices, etc., to the building then being constructed by the Howard county court house association, in the village of Cresco, whenever the committee shall decide to accept it as a safe and suitable place for the same. The board also laid the tax levy for the year 1867, as follows:

County fund, four mills on the dollar; state fund, two and a half mills; county school fund, one mill; bridge fund, three mills; insane fund, three mills; relief fund, one and a half mill.

By a report of a committee of the board of supervisors to that body, delivered at the November session, 1867, we find the indebtedness of the county stood thus:

Indebtedness of the county to date.....	\$25,580.07
Deducting the amount of tax due and un-	
collected.....	10,125.00

---

Leaving a debt of.....	\$15,455.07
------------------------	-------------

The former action of the board in regard to the poor farm having been suffered to collapse, they again move in the matter at the January session, 1868, when the following resolution was spread upon the records:

"Whereas, it is deemed advisable by this board that some provision be made for the poor of the county, whereby they may be subsisted at a less cost to the county than by the present method. Therefore,

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to look for a feasible site for a poor house farm, improved or unimproved; ascertain the cost of the same, estimate the cost of the necessary buildings and improvements, and report to this board at the June session with a view to submit the proposition to a vote of the electors of this county, at the next general election, according to the provisions of the code of the state of Iowa."

Messrs. Thurber, Griffin, and Patterson were appointed as the committee, in accordance with the above, to carry out the wishes of the board.

A petition from the board of supervisors, bearing the date of February 3, 1868, was forwarded to the legislature of the state of Iowa, requesting them not to pass the bill then before them, to legalize the action of a previous board, in conveying to the McGregor, Western railroad all the swamp lands of the county, on the plea that the said railroad had entirely failed to carry out the provisions and conditions of the original contract, entered into by them, with the people of Howard county.

The county has suffered, in times past, many misfortunes in the loss of money in the treasurer's office. The first of the series being upon the night of the 15th of March, 1868, when some party or parties unknown burglariously entered the treasurer's office, and breaking open the safe therein, abstracted moneys and

securities to the amount of thirteen thousand dollars. The board immediately offered a reward of two thousand dollars for the recovery of the money and conviction of the thief or thieves, or one thousand dollars for either. Suspicion was rife, and able detectives, with Allan Pinkerton at their head, hunted for a clue, but the bloodhounds of law were at fault, and in spite of their manifold and strenuous efforts the abstractors were never apprehended, whatsoever evidence was collected being of to slight a nature to warrant any such a course, and in the end the matter was dropped and the county had to suffer the loss.

The treasurer was ordered to procure a new safe, suitable for his office, made more securely burglar proof than the late one, and with this the matter rested, except the suspicion that remains in the minds of many to this day, that they could point out the thief; but beyond the suspicion nothing can be said, and it may be that many an entirely innocent man is regarded by his neighbor as knowing more about it than he should.

The lack of timber being a want long felt throughout the county, a resolution was adopted by the board of supervisors of the county, at their April session, to effect that the real and personal property of each and every person in the county should be exempt from all taxation, except that for state purposes, who should plant and cultivate for two years one or more acres of forest trees for timber, the said exemption being to the amount of one hundred dollars per acre, provided that the trees should not be over three feet apart. This was amended at the June session so as to include an exemption from taxes at the rate of one hundred dollars per acre, all who planted and cultivated a half mile of tree hedge.

The committee appointed at a previous session of the board in the matter of the poor farm reported at this, the June session, 1868, that they had viewed the place of Albert Miller, at Saratoga, of which the price was three thousand dollars, and contained one hundred and sixty acres, twenty-five of which was timber, forty-five or fifty under cultivation, the improvements on the same consisting of a good house and a poor stable, they found the place well watered and the means of access good, being on the main road from Cresco to Osage. Also, that they had viewed the place of Kenling and Robinson, two miles south of Saratoga, found the

land good and easy of access, well watered and the price reasonable, there being three hundred and twenty acres with some improvements, and the whole could be purchased for fifteen hundred and thirty dollars. The committee considering this very reasonable, indeed, recommended that the question be submitted to the electors of the county at the next general election, as to whether the county should purchase it. They also estimated the full cost of the farm, and the necessary equipment of the same would not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars, and add the recommendation that the vote had better be taken on that amount.

In July, 1869, at a special meeting, the board of supervisors decided to withdraw all litigation now going on between the county and the McGregor Western railroad, leaving the swamp lands, the source of the trouble, in the hands of the said railroad company, on condition that the said railroad put a station at the town of Chester.

We find that the indebtedness of the county steadily increased through all these years until in September, 1869, it had amounted to \$26,459.16, that is, including all outstanding warrants and other claims against the treasury of the county.

The rate of taxation, ordered by the board for the levy of 1869, was as follows:

State, two mills on the dollar; county, four mills; bridge, three mills; insane, two mills; county school, one mill.

The contract was let by the board for the erection of the bridge at Florence, during the year 1869, and the committee reported at the October session, the same year, that the said bridge was finished and payment ordered; the cost being \$2,500, according to the contract.

In 1870, at the January session, the committee of the board of supervisors, on agriculture, reported that "they have examined the claims of persons, who have asked exemption from taxation, under the resolution of the board and under an act of the 12th general assembly of the state of Iowa, entitled:

"An act to encourage the planting and growing of timber, fruit, and shade trees and hedges."

And the committee recommend that the claims of the following be allowed:



James Nichols,  
C. F. Webster,  
S. A. Stone,  
William Nichols,  
C. F. Gardner,  
W. H. Treat,  
Henry Gardner,  
Robert Fox,

H. C. Gardner,  
D. M. Rand,  
J. E. Webster,  
James Dunn,  
Madison Taft,  
W. D. Darrow,  
Holt Nichols,  
James Oakley,

I. C. Chamberlain,

We give the above with the names of the parties in detail, as they are the pioneers in the movement of arboriculture in the county.

According to a report made by a committee to the board, Jan. 1870, the indebtedness of the county at that time amounted to the sum of \$26,459.11, divided between the general county and bridge funds, and at the same time they find no cash in the treasury to meet the said liabilities.

The expenses of the county were also found to exceed the revenue, thereof, about three thousand dollars per annum, and as a measure toward liquidation of the debt and provisions for the deficit, the said committee recommended that there be submitted to the people of Howard county a proposition, at the next general election, to levy an additional tax of six mills on the dollar, and further recommended that one-half of the insane fund, (for which there was but little use), be transferred to the general county fund. The report of the above committee was received and the committee was discharged, but the matter was not submitted to the people as a law of the state showed them a better way, in their opinion, to arrange the matter, viz: By bonding the indebtedness and creating a sinking fund for its redemption. The board at its next session, June, 1870, passed a resolution to accordingly bond the debt of the county to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, the same to bear date of October 1, 1870, payable on or before October 1, 1880; interest to be not more than ten per cent., payable semi-annually. The treasurer was, furthermore, instructed to negotiate the said bonds at the lowest rate of interest obtainable. The bonds were to be issued in sums of \$100, and the treasurer was to take up the outstanding warrants of the county, and give in exchange the bonds.

All this was in accordance with the act of the thirteenth general assembly of the state of Iowa, approved March 30, 1870.

The legislature having made a change in the number of supervisors in each county, reducing them to three, but allowing the counties the privilege of increasing that to five, the board passed a resolution, at the same session, to submit to the people of the county, at the next general election, the question: "Shall the board of supervisors be increased to five."

The bridge at Lime Springs, then in the course of construction, seems from some imperfection in the building, to have fallen; the board ordered the attorney of the county to bring suit against the contractor and his sureties, if thought advisable.

At a meeting held during the regular session of the board, in September, 1870, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, that the resolution of June, 1870, providing for the funding of the county debt, be so amended as to include the whole debt of the county, on May 1, 1870."

The tax levy, for the year 1870, was laid as follows:

State, two mills on the dollar; county, four mills; bridge, three mills; insane, two mills; school, one mill; bond fund, four mills.

At the October session of the board the county auditor was instructed to sell all the remaining unsold lands, known as "school lands," under the provisions of the law.

January 1, 1871, the new board of county supervisors met, and drawing lots for the length of term to be held by each, D. E. Potter drew for the three years term, C. W. Wood, two years, and Aaron Kimball the one year term.

The same board laid the usual tax levy for the year 1871, as follows:

State tax, two mills on the dollar; bridge tax, three mills; general county tax, four mills; insane fund tax, one mill; school tax, one mill; bond tax, three mills.

The tax rate for the levy of 1873 was:

For county fund, four mills on the dollar; state fund, two mills; insane fund, two mills; county school fund, one mill.

We find very little of any moment in the records about this time, the business of the board being chiefly in regard to building

and repairing bridges, and auditing the usual bills against the county, which, were we to make a faithful transcript of, would prove but dry reading.

At the election held in October, 1873, "Jerry" Barker received 656 votes, to W. W. White's 651, for county auditor; this the latter contested on the ground of fraudulent voting, and having possession of the office would not give up the same to Mr. Barker. The matter was carried into the courts, and was, seemingly, decided against Barker, but the board of supervisors, having a full knowledge of the "true inwardness" of the matter, stepped in and appointed said Barker to the office at their January session, 1874; this action was also disputed by Mr. White on the plea that he was auditor until his successor was elected and qualified, and that the board had no power, vested in them by law, to remove him. He was met by the counter argument, that as the said board had appointed him to the position of county auditor, which he now filled, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of C. S. Thurber, who was appointed postmaster, the same power could remove him. The dispute lasted some time, the board even going so far as to caution the county treasurer, by resolution, not to do business with White as auditor. In February, however, White capitulated and surrendered the office, which was immediately placed in the hands of Jeremiah Barker.

An act was passed at the regular session of the board, in April, 1875, to build a wrought iron bridge at Florenceville, at a cost of \$3,500, and the contract was let and bridge erected in accordance therewith.

Again at the session of the board, in September, 1876, the matter of the county seat comes to the front, and the said board taking the subject under advisement, issued a notice that at the next general election the question would be submitted to the people of the county as to whether the said seat of the county government should or not be located at Cresco, the same being now situated half way between the villages of New Oregon and Vernon Springs, but for convenience sake, the building at the town of Cresco was occupied as the county seat. These matters are treated more in detail in the chapter devoted to the county seat controversy.

December 1, 1876, the court house, at Cresco, was destroyed by

fire. We quote from the Howard County Times the account of the conflagration.

"On Friday morning last, December 1st, the county court house and county records were destroyed by fire. The flames were discovered at a little after twelve o'clock, Thanksgiving night. The festivals in Lyric hall, and Dr. Price's hall, with the supper in Caward's building (all in the vicinity of the court house), kept a large number of our citizens up later than usual. A number of young men and young ladies, returning from the supper room about midnight, discovered the fire and gave the alarm. One of the number (John G. Stradley), having the key to the treasurer's office, opened the door and entered the room with others. There was then no fire in the treasurer's office. Mr. Stradley opened the little slide door between the offices of the treasurer and auditor, and looking carefully into the latter, discovered that there was no fire therein. A further examination revealed a fire in the floor of the court room above, immediately over the blind door in the partition, between the hallway and the auditor's office, on the hall side, in line with but not over the marshal's lantern, which was lighted and hanging in its usual place.

"The door on the south side of the court room (in the second story), was then broken in, but the room was then so full of smoke that M. L. Luther, who first entered it, was prostrated to the floor, and had to crawl out on his hands and knees. The smoke and heat were so intense that it was impossible to obtain ingress to remove and save the books, records, and contents of the court room, which the hungry flames soon devoured. Only a few days before the clerk of the courts had his books, records, and office fixtures moved to the room above, for greater convenience during the session of the courts, and with the intention of making it his permanent office, leaving his old room in the southwest corner for the use of the sheriff, juries, etc. Thus it happened that nearly all the court records were destroyed by the fire.

"The recorder and auditor being absent, their offices were broken into, and all their valuable records saved, as well as those of the treasurer, and all the contents of the safes of the treasurer, auditor, and recorder have been found well preserved, except in some instances slightly discolored and the bindings injured.

\* \* \* \* \*

The loss cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. The money, real estate records, and all other valuable books and papers, except

the court records, as before stated, were saved. The loss of these latter will cause great inconvenience and perhaps litigation, but it is probable that the means may be found to effect a restoration of most of them.

\* \* \* \* \*

"The property was insured for \$3,500, as follows: \$1,000 in the Etna, on the building, for the benefit of the court house association; \$1,000 in the same company on the records, and \$1,500 in the Home, of New York, on the furniture, fixtures, etc.

"The cause of the fire is unknown, some attributing it to accident, and others to incendiarism. Some seem to have almost positive convictions, that it was the work of an incendiary, and give reasons for their opinion, which it would not be advisable to publish. It seems to be the general opinion, however, that the careless habit of throwing cigar stumps on the floor, is responsible for the fire. A lighted cigar would light a fire that would smoulder for hours in the thick matting, with which a part of the court room was spread. A strip of this matting was immediately over the place where the fire was first discovered."

In the light of later developments many people, who are cognizant of the affairs of the county, connect the fire with the defalcation and absconding of the county treasurer, and claim that there is an evident connection between the two, that to cover up his tracks he fired the building. This has never been proven, and may be a misconstruction, human nature ever being prone to condemn a man for all the wrongs he might do if he only commits one—kick a man when he is down, so to speak.

For the facts in regard to the above mentioned embezzlement of the funds by the county treasurer, Frank Kyte, and his movements, at the time, we are indebted to the kindness of L. E. Smith, of the Cresco Times, who with rare courtesy, extended to us all help in compiling the records of Howard county, and who placed at our disposal all the papers in regard to the matter in point.

On Monday, July 12, 1877, the community of Cresco was startled by the receipt of a telegram from McGregor, stating that Frank Kyte, the county treasurer, had been drowned in the Mississippi river, on Sunday afternoon, while bathing at a point near the pictured rocks, some two miles below town. Telegrams were sent to the different members of his family, notifying them

of his death, and John G. Stradley, S. A. and Frank Sutton started for McGregor on the first train, meaning to assist in recovering his body. On their arrival they were informed that he went in swimming in company with Frank Tryan, the son of the proprietor of the Mondell house, at Prairie du Chien, where he was stopping. Kyte persisted in the assertion (according to his story), that he could swim to the island, nearly a third of a mile, and return, which feat he accordingly tried. Tryan, whilst dressing, heard Kyte's scream and saw him go down. Being under the impulse of fear, he immediately started for Prairie du Chien to give the alarm, and on arriving there told his pitiful tale. John Lawler, with his usual promptitude and generosity, at once ordered out the ferry boat to search for the body. Quite a number of row-boats, also, went to the place pointed out, and assisted in the search.

On Monday, the body not being yet recovered, the cannon belonging to the artillery battery at McGregor, was taken on board the ferry boat, and served by volunteers, commenced firing, to raise the body to the surface, the merchants of McGregor, having contributed liberally to the fund to buy powder, etc. All day the bluffs re-echoed to the booming of the artillery, and the whole city was on tip-toe of excitement, and every means was taken for the recovery of the corpse. All efforts were in vain. H. W. Babcock, of Cresco, who was on business in McGregor at the time, offered fifty dollars for the recovery of the body, and Mr. Stradley, on his arrival, at once offered one hundred dollars. All day the search continued, under the able direction of Amos Pearsall, of McGregor, and Peter Velie, of Prairie du Chien. Toward evening, however, a rumor, started on the streets, that Kyte had purchased a new suit of clothes on Saturday, in McGregor. This rumor and others, that were floating around, were diligently followed up, by the gentlemen from Cresco. On Tuesday morning they learned, that, a man, answering the description of the supposed dead man, had been seen, walking on the track near Clayton, and later at the town of Guttenburg. Immediately Messrs. Pearsall, Stradley, and Sutton proceeded to the latter place, and tracked the man to a point about opposite to the town of Cassville, Wisconsin. They found evidence strong enough to force conviction on their minds, that the man they were following

was indeed the absconding treasurer, Kyte, and that he, in the words of the immortal Webster, still lived. He had shaved off his moustache and at Clayton and Guttenburg, was noticed, from the liberality with which he threw around his money, treating to drinks, etc. It was also found that he had crossed the river, at Turkey river station. The party did not pursue any further, but returned to McGregor, and took legal advice, as what was best to be done under the circumstances. They learned, much to their surprise, no doubt, that there existed no authority, in them, to arrest him as there was no charge against him, or evidence that he had committed any crime. Meanwhile P. N. Glathart, one of the Cresco delegation, was watching the movements of young Tryan, to prevent his escape or flight, and upon the return of the pursuing party, and the narration of the facts learned by them, Tryan was interviewed. He was told, in pretty strong language, that it was now ascertained, beyond all question, that Frank Kyte was not drowned—that he (Tryan) had lied about it, and must own up, and more to the same effect. The threats and menaces of his interrogators produced the effect, and he admitted the fact, Kyte had skipped out, and that the report of his drowning, was a fabrication. The true story now came out, partly extorted from the young man, and partly from other sources.

It seems that Kyte had been in ill-health for some time past, and had been at the sanitarium, at Prairie du Chien, taking baths, or as he jocularly termed it "taking a scald." While there, he got on very friendly terms with this young Tryan, getting on the "right side of him," as the slang expression is by liberally treating, and making a companion of him. He told Tryan a pitiful tale, to raise his compassion, telling him, that he had a scrape in Cresco, in which a woman was concerned, and that it would soon become public and that he had better be dead, at least to his friends—for it would be hell on earth to him, to have it come out, and live among it. The two inseperables, after purchasing the suit of clothes, went to the pictured rocks, and they, according to previous agreement, went in swimming. After sporting in the water some time Tryan climbed out and while dressing saw Kyte sink and turned his back, so that he might not see him emerge. Kyte now having been drowned put out for more congenial climes, and Tryan hastened to Prairie du Chien, to carry

out his part of the comedy. Kyte bungled his part of the job sadly, but so it seems "The best laid plans of men and mice oft gang agley." Kyte left a wife and child, a son only two months old, to "suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," and bear the brand of the felon shame of his erring father. No man had a larger circle of acquaintance and friends than he, and he was trusted and beloved by all.

The following resolution, of the board of supervisors in special session assembled, July, 1877 explains itself:

"Whereas, Frank Kyte, late treasurer of Howard county, has absconded, and has not been seen at the treasurer's office in the said county for the past twelve days, and is nowhere to be found, and his present whereabouts is to us unknown, and that it is believed that he has ceased to be a resident of said county, therefore;

Resolved, By the board of supervisors of Howard county, that the facts recited above have caused a vacancy in the office of county treasurer, and the office of county treasurer is now vacant, and we hereby so declare.

"Resolved, Further that James F. Borthwick be and is hereby appointed county treasurer, of Howard county to fill the vacancy now existing in said office.

"Resolved, That the incoming treasurer be required to give bonds in the sum of forty thousand dollars, and this appointment shall take effect upon the approval of the same, by this board."

Upon the receipt of the intelligence the board ordered the safe to be opened, but the arrival of J. W. Norris, the vice-president of the safe company with Cyrus Wellington, the matter for a while came to a halt. It would seem as if the safe belonged to the Diebold safe company. It was locked with a Sargent time lock, but the latter had been tampered with, and would not open. After Mr. Norris arrived, he served a notice upon the board of supervisors of the county, that they must not open the safe, until they had purchased the same, and the price was affixed as being \$1500. The board however would not be "bull dozed," and after much discussion a contract was entered into by and between the said board and Norris, the latter to open the safe, for the sum of two hundred dollars, if it could be done without breaking it, and four hundred dollars if it had to be forced, if the latter, he was to



repair and put in as good shape as before. He tried for a long time to open it, using all his skill, but in vain, he then returned to Chicago, and brought with him after the absence of several days, a skilled workman with tools, who proceeded to force the safe. On July 20th the door yielding to the effort stood wide open and the eyes of the board on investigation, beheld an empty, or nearly so, money drawer. A rigid examination of the books of the treasurer revealed the extent of the defalcation to be \$18500.66. The board immediately took measures to attach the property of Kyte, both real and personal. This amounted to the sum of about \$6000. leaving the bondsmen to pay the difference of \$12000, and the attorney of the county was directed to bring suit against them to recover that amount. On a search being instituted for the bond it was found to be missing and the parties, whose names were supposed to have been affixed thereon, set up a claim, that they had signed no such bond. So the matter rested for a short time, but the search for the missing document was diligently prosecuted and at last was crowned with success. The paper was found and was immediately placed in the hands of the legal lights, who represented the county, for them to commence suit. Dire was the dismay of the disgusted bondsigners for it meant financial ruin to many of them. The board, at an adjourned meeting June 24th, 1878 (the matter having run along until then,) were presented with a petition, signed by 1445 voters of the county, requesting the honorable board of supervisors of Howard county, "to compromise the matter between the county and the bondsmen of Kyte and to withdraw the suits now pending between the county and them, and settle the matter between the parties on such terms as may be just to the county without involving the financial ruin of said bondsmen." As two-thirds of the said petitioners seemed to think that \$5000 was the proper sum at which to adjust and settle the same, the board resolved, that they would accept the sum of \$500 in cash to defray expenses the county had been put to, and \$5000 in equal installments, payable in one, two and three years after date, the bondsmen to give their notes for the same, for the benefit of the defalcation fund of the county. This seemed to the board, as more nearly to approximate to the wishes of the most of the petitioners, and

"Whereas the following named bondsmen of Frank Kyte, J. F.

Donahugh, Sardis Sutton, W. E. Roche, C. Genshaw, T. J. De Lange, P. Meighan, John Miltz, P. Peterson, Patrick Brady, Thomas Sullivan and William Burke, have signified their assent to settle on the basis above;

Resolved, That the board of supervisors of Howard county, accept and settle as above, taking security for the faithful performance thereof," and ordering that all suits against the gentlemen be withdrawn, except as against A. D. Wright, against whom judgment had already been obtained. The matter was settled upon this basis and here the affair closed, and although the county was the loser still it was better to compromise than by a strict construction of the law to plunge into despair so many innocent families. Further whereabouts of the absconding treasurer is totally unknown, and let us draw around his act the same charitable mantle of oblivion; we know not the temptation that beset him—that led to the fatal action that blasted a life full of promise—that broke up a happy home. Let us not apologize for the crime, but pity and regard with charity, the criminal.

The court house association having rebuilt the building, used for county purposes, in what is known as court-house square, in the year 1880. Again tendered, to the board of supervisors, the use of the same for the use of Howard county officials and as a court room, free of any charge for as long a term as the said county would continue to use it for such purpose. This new building was erected in 1879, but was not finished until the early part of 1880. The board accepting the offer moved the records, books, etc. of the county, together with the furniture and fixtures of the various officers of the county from the house of A. D. Wright, which they had occupied as a temporary expedient, to the new court house, where they now remain.

By resolution of the board, bids were asked for attendance on the sick poor of the county, and on receipt of the same. 1880, the contract was awarded to Dr. O. N. Hoyt for the yearly stipend of \$125.

By a report of the county treasurer, made January 1st, 1881, we find the funds of the county in the following condition.

General county fund on hand.....	\$	351	39
State " " " .....		1137	47
War-defense bond " " " .....		51	85

County school	"	"	"	.....	1050 17
Bridge	"	"	"	.....	179 19
Insane	"	"	"	.....	1024 62
Bond	"	"	"	.....	2076 96
Permanent school	"	"	"	.....	1402 93
Temporary	"	"	"	.....	1857 99
Apportionment	"	"	"	.....	192 09

Total..... \$9324 66

At the June session of the board of supervisors, in and for Howard county, instructed the auditor to advertise for bids for the erection and equipment of a county jail, and also for a place of residence, for the sheriff of the county, to be attached thereto and appropriated some \$4500 for the same. The auditor obeyed the order, but on opening the bids, the board decided, that none of them were satisfactory. They therefore undertook to build the said jail and residence themselves. A. G. Hubbard being appointed commissioner to superintend the work thereon and carry out the instructions of the board in relation to them. For a description of these building refer to chapter six devoted county buildings.



## CHAPTER III.

---

RETURNS OF EVERY ELECTION HELD IN THE COUNTY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO THE PRESENT TIME; VOTE CAST FOR EACH CANDIDATE; NAMES, ETC.

---

The election returns for some of the earlier years are entirely wanting, and for many others are very imperfect but we give below all that seemed to be authentic. The first election, after the organization of the county, was in

1855,

and was held on the first Monday of August, James G. Upton, being elected county judge; Edmund Gillett, clerk; William Woodward, recorder and treasurer; John Harlow, Sheriff; M. V. Burdick prosecuting attorney.

1856.

James G. Upton, was elected county judge; E. Gillett, clerk of courts, F. N. Jewett, treasurer and recorder; John Harlow, Sheriff; John F. Mitchell, coroner; John C. Miles, county surveyor.

1857.

Edward Gillett, seems to have been acting as county judge, during the spring of this year, and James G. Upton the balance, with Gillett as clerk; John Harlow, as sheriff, and William Woodward, recorder; no records exist of any election, but these are taken from some legal papers of this date, which bear the signatures as above.

1858.

C. E. Brown, seems to have been county superintendent of schools previous to this year, but no record exist, to show that such is a fact, except some records of payment to him, as salary in that capacity. At the election held this year. James G. Upton, was elected county judge; H. A. Cook, treasurer and recorder; H. Greer, surveyor; C. E. Brown, county superintendent of schools; James H. B. Harris, clerk of the courts, (this seems to be an error, but is so recorded).

1859.

James G. Upton, county judge; Edmund Gillett, clerk of the courts; H. A. Cook, treasurer and recorder; James Carpenter, sheriff.

1860

Darius Seeley, elected county judge; James H. B. Harris, clerk of the courts; A. M. Cowan, treasurer and recorder; C. E. Brown, superintendent of schools; P. T. Searles, sheriff; Laban Hassett, county surveyor.

Board of supervisors to serve for year 1861, J. W. Barrel, G. W. Ostrander, T. R. Perry, T. Griffin, S. W. Seeley, J. H. Boggess, S. Radford, M. Niles, C. M. Munson, W. Strother, C. A. Salmon and S. L. Cary.

1861.

At the election, held in the early spring, this year, the first record is made, of the amount of votes polled, which is 410.

D. W. Owen, was elected county judge; E. W. Allen, clerk of the courts; on the question of donating the swamp lands to the northern Iowa railroad 384 votes were cast in favor of it, and 24 against. Thos. Griffin, E. V. White, H. D. Noble, J. H. Boggess, W. D. Darrow, J. T. Mitchell, J. E. Bennett, were elected members of the board of supervisors; Adam Fussell, county superintendent and P. T. Searles, sheriff.

This year the time of holding the election was changed, and an election ordered in accordance with the new order of things; this was held

October 8, 1861.

Total number of votes cast, 567, Samuel J. Kirkwood receiving 285, and William H. Merritt 251, and scattering 31 for governor; Ralph P. Lowe 253, Ralph Lowe 67 and James M. Elwood 256, for

judge of supreme court; J. R. Needham 312 and Lawson Dewey 255, for lieutenant governor; D. G. Frisbee 283, S. L. Cary 247 and T. W. Sanders 9, for representative to the legislature.

C. E. Berry 296, Edmund Gillett 260, and 2 scattering, for county judge.

Austin M. Cowan 312, and A. M. Van Leuvan 241, for treasurer and recorder.

P. T. Searles, receiving all the votes, 566, for sheriff.

Laban Hassett, 327, and Joseph Knowlton, 233, for county surveyor.

Adam Fussell 233, J. W. Reed 214, and C. E. Brown 114, for county superintendent.

J. W. Baird 302 and T. W. Sanders 265, for coroner.

C. F. Webster 323, Michael O'Donnell 195 for clerk of courts.

H. D. Noble, J. F. Webster, Gardner Howe, G. W. Ostrander, C. W. Fields and A. G. Hubbard, were also elected members of the board of supervisors.

October 13, 1863.

The total vote of the county this year was 647, of which William M. Stone received 403 and James M. Tuttle 244 for Governor; Enoch W. Eastman 408 and James F. Duncomb 241 for Lieut. Governor.

James F. Dillon, 408 to Chas. Mason 242, for Judge of the Supreme Court.

Thos. R. Perry 397 and T. M. Atherton 245 for Representative from 52d district.

J. G. Patterson 408 and N. M. Wilder 241 for state senator.

C. E. Berry 397 and H. A. Goodrich 250 for county judge.

A. W. Cowan 416 and Chas Brownell 220 for treasurer and recorder.

P. T. Searles 416 and P. G. Nichols 227, for sheriff; Laban Hassett 409 and Joseph Knowlton 236, for county surveyor.

J. J. Clemmer 406 and S. Herrick 240 for coroner.

Darius Seeley 407 and W. S. Pettibone 239, for drainage commissioner.

For donating the swamp lands to McGregor Western railroad 604, against, 18.

The members of the board of supervisors elected were W. D.

Darrow, A. M. Van Leuvan, Darius Seeley, H. A. Goodrich, Thos. Griffin and L. A. Russell.

October 8, 1864.

The whole vote cast numbered 639. The Iowa republican presidential electors receiving 419 and the democratic 220 votes.

J. C. Cole 421, his opponent 221, for the office of judge of the supreme court.

James Wright 421, and John H. Wallace 220, for secretary of state.

John A. Elliott 421, and E. O. Hendershott 220, for state auditor.

Wm. H. Holmes 421, and I. B. Lash 220, for state treasurer.

E. A. Allen 421, and Chas. W. Dunbar, 220 for attorney general.

Josiah A. Harvey received 421, B. D. Holbrook 220, for register of state land office.

For congressman, William B. Allison polled 421, to B. B. Richards' 221.

Aaron Kimball had 458, and J. White 261, for clerk of the courts.

S. W. Seeley 456, and G. W. Fall 265, for county recorder.

Smith W. Seeley 454, and G. W. Fall 262, for county judge.

W. D. Darrow, A. M. VanLeuvan, Darius Seeley, H. A. Goodrich, Thomas Griffin and L. A. Russell were also elected members of the board of county supervisors.

October 10, 1865.

At the election held this date there were 635 votes polled for governor, of which William M. Stone received 353, and Thomas H. Benton 282.

For lieutenant governor, B. F. Gue 362, and W. W. Hamilton received 276.

For judge of the supreme court, Geo. G. Wright 363, and H. H. Trimble 276.

For superintendent of public instruction, O. Faville had 365 to J. W. Sennett 270.

For representative, 54th district, D. W. Poindexter had 343 and C. E. Berry 245.

For county judge, D. O. Preston had 330 votes, A. D. Combs 294, scattering 3.

For treasurer, J. F. Webster 328, B. D. Everingham 305.

The other officers elected being, J. F. Powell, sheriff; J. J. Clemmer, coroner; P. N. Glathart, surveyor, and T. W. Lee, county

superintendent of schools. For members of the board of supervisors, C. E. Ashley, C. T. Thurber, J. H. St. John, H. A. Goodrich, E. I. Isabell and L. A. Russell.

Special election, October, 1865.

On the question of extending the time in the contract with the McGregor Western railroad, total vote cast 232; "for extension," 212; "against extension," 20.

On the question of giving said railroad the entire benefit of the swamp lands of Howard county; "for," 149; "against," 70; blank, 13. Albion and Howard townships held no election.

October 9, 1866.

At this election there were 656 votes polled, of which S. G. Van Anda received 221, and E. D. Wright, 435 for secretary of state; John A. Elliott, 435, and Robert W. Cross, 231 for state auditor; S. E. Rankin, 435, and George A. Stone, 221 for state treasurer; F. E. Bissell, 435, and W. Ballingall, 221 for state attorney; C. C. Carpenter, 435, and L. P. McKinney, 222 for register of state land office; C. Linderman, 435, and Fred. Gottschalk, 222 for clerk of the supreme court.

For representative to congress William B. Allison received 439 votes, and Reuben Noble, 229; for district judge, Milo McGlathery received 654; there being no opposition, and for district attorney the vote stood L. O. Hatch, 341, John T. Clark, 305, W. R. Mead, 1, D. O. Preston, 1; for clerk of courts, Aaron Kimball received 507, T. W. Lee, 141, and William H. Patterson, 2; for county recorder, William H. Patterson had 507, C. W. Sawyer, 133, and Aaron Kimball, 2.

Members of the board of supervisors elected at the same time were: A. N. Harris, Truman Robinson, S. A. Stone, P. T. Searles, I. C. Chamberlain, Thos. Griffin, and Wm. Burleigh.

October 8, 1867.

Total number of votes polled, 953. Samuel Merrill receiving 613, and Chas. Mason, 339 for governor; John Scott, 616, and D. M. Harris, 279 for lieutenant governor; J. M. Beck, 516, and John H. Craig, 337 for judge of the supreme court; Henry O'Conner, 616, and W. F. Barker, 337 for attorney general; D. F. Wells, 616, and Maturin L. Fisher, 337 for superintendent of public instruction, for the full term, and for the same to fill vacancy, D. F. Wells received 255 votes, and M. L. Fisher, 92.



For state senator, 46th district, J. G. Patterson received 576 votes, his opponent, A. G. Case, tallying but 332. For representative, 56th district, J. H. Brown received 581, and G. W. Barker, 329 votes; for county treasurer M. M. Moon had 536, J. F. Webster, 422, and "scattering," 1.

For county judge, D. O. Preston received 552, C. F. Breckenridge, 382 votes, with a scattering of 2; J. F. Powell, 621, and G. W. Ostrander, 330 for sheriff; T. W. Lee, 598, and H. W. Partch, 346 for superintendent of county schools; P. N. Glathart being elected surveyor with a vote of 557, while his opponent, Laban Hassett, received but 399; J. J. Clemmer was re-elected coroner by a vote of 480 to H. C. Price's 472.

November, 1868.

The Iowa presidential electors for U. S. Grant received 674 votes, and those for Horatio Seymour, 380, the total vote being 1054. For secretary of state, Ed. Wright had 673, and David Hammer, 381; John A. Elliott received 673, and Harvey Dunlevy, 381 for the office of state auditor; Samuel E. Rankin, 673, and Lawrence McCarty, 381 for state treasurer; C. C. Carpenter, 673, and A. Davidson, 381. for register of the state land office.

For representative in congress, from the 3d district, W. B. Allison received 667 votes, William Mills, 381, and L. A. Thomas, 1.

For judge of the circuit court, M. V. Burdick had 673, and E. M. Farnsworth, 380 votes; Wm. H. Patterson received 774, and Gustave Dorr 359 votes for county recorder; S. A. Stone, 623, A. M. Gregory, 411, and W. H. Patterson, 1, for clerk of the courts.

On the stock act, 555 "for," and 180 "against."

On the question in regard to levying a tax to purchase a "poor farm," the vote stood: 92 "for the tax," and 709 "against the tax."

On the amendments to the state constitution, 618 were in favor, and 412 against the proposed measure.

October 12, 1869.

The total number of votes polled at this election was 840.

Samuel Merrill received 534, and George Gillaspay, 304 for Governor; Madison M. Walden, 530, and A. P. Richardson, 310 for lieutenant Governor.

John F. Dillon, 530, and W. F. Brennon, 307, for judge of the supreme court.

A. S. Kissell received the full vote of 532 for the office of superintendent of public instruction, there being no opposition.

C. T. Granger received 454 votes, and W. R. Mead, 295, for district attorney.

A. S. Faville received 409 votes and T. M. Atherton, 120, for member of legislature.

C. S. Thurber defeated his opponent, D. B. Everingham, for the office of county auditor, by a vote of 529 to 310

M. M. Moon received 568 votes, and James Hall, 259 votes, for county treasurer.

For sheriff the vote stood: J. F. Hall, 479, and J. DeNoyelles, 354.

Patrick Griffin having 301, C. F. Breckenridge, 527, and T. W. Lee, 1 vote for superintendent of county schools.

J. J. Clemmer, 521, W. F. Daniels, 307, and "scattering," 1, for coroner.

The members of the board of supervisors elected were: John Shaw, Thomas Sullivan, James Oakley, N. Lydon, H. W. Partch, P. T. Searles, and Joseph Burgess.

October, 1870.

There were 749 votes polled, in all, in this election, C. C. Cole received 498, J. C. Knapp, 235, for judge of supreme court; W. E. Miller, 511, P. H. Smythe, 234, for judge of supreme court to fill the vacancy caused by the declension of John F. Dillon; J. G. Day, 509, Reuben Noble, 240, for judge of supreme court, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of George G. Wright.

For auditor of state, John Russell received 511, and W. M. Garner, 234 votes.

For secretary of state, Ed. Wright had 514, and Charles Doerr, 231 votes:

For state treasurer, S. E. Rankin polled 511 votes, and William C. James, 234.

Henry O'Conner received 510, and H. M. Martin, 234 votes for attorney general.

On member of congress the vote stood W. G. Donnan, 509, John T. Stoneman, 238.

For judge of the district court, Milo McGlathery polled all the votes, 513.

C. T. Granger had the same luck and polled 513 votes for district attorney.

For clerk of the courts, S. A. Stone received 535 votes, while David Geer only polled 219.

W. H. Patterson received 557 votes, and P. G. Nichols, 184 for county recorder.

For county supervisors, Aaron Kimball with 515, Chas. H. Wood, 447, and D. E. Potter, 558, were declared elected, defeating D. B. Everingham, who had 302, R. S. S. Andros, 227, and August Fallgater, 190.

On the proposition, "Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution of the state, and amend the same," "yes," 100; "No," 427.

On the proposition, "Shall the number of the supervisors be increased to five," "Yes," 235; "No," 379.

On the stock act of the 12th general assembly there were 127 votes cast, of which 114 were "against," and 13 "for."

October, 1871.

Total vote polled, 1,030; C. C. Carpenter receiving 659, and J. C. Knapp, 371, for governor.

H. C. Bulis, 658, and M. M. Ham, 372, for the office of lieutenant governor.

For judge of supreme court, James G. Day, 659, and John F. Duncomb, 369 votes.

For superintendent of public instruction, Alonzo Abernathy received 659, and Edward Mumm, 370 votes.

For state senator, John E. Burke received 636, and L. H. Weller 377 votes.

For representative in the legislature, W. W. Blackman, 654, and Cyrus Foreman 374 votes.

M. M. Moon was elected by a nearly unanimous vote to the office of county recorder.

C. S. Thurber received 656, and Joseph Knowlton 366 votes for county auditor.

J. T. Powell was elected sheriff, he having 588 votes to his opponent's J. DeNoyelles, 445, with a scattering of 4.

C. F. Breckenridge received 582, James Greenleaf, 370, P. N. Glatthart, 1, and C. Breckenridge 18 votes for the office of county superintendent.

J. J. Clemmer was re-elected over all competitors, having 677 votes out of 708, for coroner.

P. N. Glathart was elected by 650 votes to the office of county surveyor, there being no opposition.

For member of board of supervisors, A. B. Smedley received 692, Joseph Lee, 181, John Wolf, 18, and "scattering" 2 votes.

November, 1872.

Out of a total vote of 1,046 the Iowa republican presidential electors received 772 votes, and the vote for the democratic electors averages 130.

For secretary of state the vote stood: Josiah F. Young, 708, E. A. Gilbert, 161, and Charles Barker, 42.

John Russell received 688 to J. P. Cassedy's 248 votes, for state auditor.

For state treasurer William Christy received 768, W. J. Russ, 148, and D. B. Bens, 42 votes.

For congress, H. O. Pratt polled 689, and A. T. Lusch 225 votes.

For judge of circuit court C. T. Granger received 721 votes, there being no opposition.

For clerk of the courts S. A. Stone polled 813 votes, there being no opposition.

For member of the board of supervisors, P. T. Searles had 773, and H. C. Marsh, 237 votes.

For county recorder the vote was: Wm. H. Patterson, 834, and H. Price, 37.

October, 1873.

The number of votes polled at this election was 1,265.

For governor, C. C. Carpenter received 1,232, J. G. Vail, 30, and scattering, 3 votes.

For lieut. governor Joseph Dysart received 1,236, C. E. Whitney, 27, and Fred. O'Donnell, 2 votes.

For judge of supreme court J. M. Beck received 1,232, and B. J. Hall, 28 votes.

For superintendent of public instructions, A. Abernathy, 1,237, and D. W. Prindle, 28.

For state senator, Hiram Bailey, received 938 votes, and A. J. Felt, 335.

H. A. Goodrich received 766, J. F. Borthwick, 548, and "Gosh," 1, for legislature.

O. J. Clark received 1225 for prosecuting attorney.

The vote on county auditor was very close, "Jerry" Barker receiving 656, W. W. White, 651, with one vote for Frank Kyte.

For county treasurer M. M. Moon had 620, Frank Kyte, 674, with a scattering of two votes.

C. B. Ashley polled 589, and D. Ackerson 694 votes for the office of sheriff.

For superintendent of county schools, O. N. Hoyt received 641, and A. Craig, 622 votes.

Emmett Barber received 641, and Laban Hassett, 673 votes for county surveyor.

H. C. Price received 696, and J. W. Reed, 602 votes for coroner.

The vote on supervisor to fill vacancy stood: S. Radford, 558, and S. S. Lambert, 759, and for the long term, W. W. Woodward, 612, and Thomas Griffin, 701.

October, 13, 1874.

An election was held this day, at which 1,129 votes were polled.

Josiah F. Young receiving 778, David Morgan 350, and H. C. Hargis, 1, for secretary of state.

Buren R. Sherman received 1,045, and J. M. King, 81, for state auditor.

William Christy, 778, J. W. Barnes, 282, and H. C. Hargis, 67 for state treasurer.

David Secor, 730, R. H. Rondame, 272, and J. D. Hayes, 1, for register of the state land office.

M. E. Cutts, 730, and J. H. Keatley, 351, for attorney general.

For congress, H. O. Pratt received 369 votes, John Bowman, 749, and P. Nolan, 1.

Milo McGlathery with 337, and Reuben Noble with 749 were the contestants for the office of judge of the district court.

O. J. Clark polled 400, and G. L. Faust, 720 votes, for district attorney.

C. F. Webster was elected clerk of the courts, having 516 votes, while his opponents, W. S. Gardner, and J. F. Powell, had, respectively, 475 and 130.

The vote for recorder stood: W. H. Patterson, 706, P. Velie, Jr., 402, and Miss Lillie Bucknum, 17.

For member of the board of supervisors, James Oakley defeated his competitor, having 602 votes, and H. C. Cunningham, 402.

October, 12, 1875.

On the question, "Shall stock be restrained from running at large," the vote stood, 361 "for," and 585 "against," in a total vote of 946.

On the question, "Shall stock be restrained from running at large from sunset to sunrise," 832 votes are registered as "for" the restraint, and 114 "against."

For governor, Samuel J. Kirkwood received 882, and S. Leffler, 477 votes.

For lieutenant governor, Joshua G. Newbold received 880, and E. B. Woodward, 480 votes.

Austin Adams received 878, and W. J. Knight, 481 votes, for judge of supreme court.

Alonzo Abernethy received 879, and Isaiah Doane, 23, for superintendent of public instruction.

For representative, 64th district, Henry T. Reed polled 884, and Henry A. Goodrich, 472 votes.

Jerry Barker was re-elected county auditor, having 920 votes, his competitor, G. W. Merry, having only 434, with a single scattering vote.

Frank Kyte was almost unanimously elected to fill the treasurer's office, the vote standing, Kyte, 1,330, D. E. Potter, 3, P. T. Searles, 5, and Peter Nolan, 1.

For sheriff, Samuel L. Thomson polled 675, David H. Ackerson, 558, and Hugh Price, 127 votes.

Osmand N. Hoyt had 738, T. W. Lee, 606, and A. H. Tuttle, 1 vote for superintendent of schools.

Laban Hassett's friends rallied to the tune of 785, while Michael Montague's only numbered 565, with a scattering of 6 votes, electing Mr. Hassett once more to the office of county surveyor.

For coroner, James McCollum had 835, and H. C. Price, 528 votes.

Alonzo G. Hubbard was elected member of the board of supervisors with 727 votes in his favor, his opponent, S. S. Lambert having only 632.

November 7, 1876.

The total vote was 1,815, of which the Hayes and Wheeler

electors received 1,194 votes, the Tilden and Hendricks electors 600, while the Cooper (greenback), electors only had 21.

For judge of the supreme court, for full term, W. H. Seevers received 1,201, W. M. Graham, 599, and W. I. Hayes, 20 votes; for the same to fill the vacancy created by chapter 7, acts of the 16th general assembly, James H. Rothrock had 1,168, Walter I. Hayes, 599, and Wm. Graham, 9; and for the same office to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of C. C. Cole, Wm. H. Seevers polled 1,171, and Walker I. Hayes 629 votes.

Josiah T. Young had 1201, James H. Stepbenraugh 614, and A. McCready 15 votes, for secretary of state.

Buren R. Sherman 1201, William Gronewig 622, and Leonard Brown 15 votes, for state auditor.

Geo. W. Bemis 1201, Wesley Jones 615, and George C. Fry 15, for state treasurer.

David Secor 1201, N. C. Ridenver 624, and George M. Walker 13, for register of the state land office.

John T. McJunkin 1201, and J. C. Cook 629, for attorney general.

Carl W. Von Coelln 1201, and J. A. Nash 629, for superintendent of public instruction to fill vacancy.

For congressman, N. C. Deering polled 1188 and Cyrus Foreman 649.

C. T. Granger received 1199 votes for circuit judge there being no opposition.

Calvin F. Webster capturing the office of clerk of the courts, having 1251 while Edward Hughes had 535 with a scattering vote of 14.

William H. Patterson polled 1,261, and W. H. Mereness, 525 votes, for county recorder.

For member of the board of supervisor we find that D. T. Emmons received the suffrages of 1,191 electors, while L. Averill, received 599, with a scattering of 11.

On the question of relocating the county seat at Cresco, the vote stood "for Cresco" 800, "against Cresco and in favor of old location between the villages of Vernon Springs and New Oregon," 969.

October 9, 1877.

The total vote was 1918, this election of which John H. Gear

received 551, D. P. Stubbs, 201, Elias Jessup, 519, and John P. Irish, 647, for governor.

Frank T. Campbell, 1030, A. McCready, 249, and W. C. James, 647 for the office of Lieut-governor.

James G. Day, 1,029, John Porter, 253, and H. E. J. Boardman, 647, for judge of supreme court.

Carl Von Coelln, 1,029, S. T. Ballard, 254, and G. W. Cullison, 646, for superintendent of public instruction.

For state senator, Aaron Kimball received 1,045, and L. H. Weller, 839 votes.

C. E. Brown polled 933, Thomas Griffin, 479, and August Fallgatter, 481, for representative 66th district.

John E. Peck with 977 votes, defeated Jerry Barker, who had 927, for the office of county auditor.

To fill the vacancy in the treasurer's office, Patrick Griffin received 918, J. F. Borthwick, received 806, and W. H. Merenes, 13 votes.

For county treasurer for full term Patrick Griffin received 1,026, J. F. Borthwick, 771, and W. H. Mereness, 123 votes.

Samuel L. Thomson polled 966, Hugh Price, 636, H. A. Axtell, 324, and "scattering" one vote for sheriff, P. N. Glathart being elected county surveyor by a vote of 1,028, his opponent Laban Hassett having only 891.

For county superintendent of schools, 897 votes given for W. H. Brocksome elected him, his competitors receiving respectively Joseph C. Kellow, 755, and Florence Barnard, 229 votes.

James McCollum capturing the office of coroner with 1010 votes, J. W. Reed receiving only 689, and C. E. Bowers received 199 votes.

For member board of supervisors, James Oakley received 1,053, I. C. Chamberlain, 832, and B. Chapin, 56, with one "scattered."

On the question "shall stock be restrained from running at large," the vote stood "for 837," "against restraint" 409.

October 8, 1878.

At the general election this year there were 1,968 votes cast, John A. T. Hull receiving 937, E. M. Farnsworth 1,030, blank one for secretary of state.



Buren R. Sherman, 934, and Joseph Eibeck, 1,034 for state auditor.

George W. Bemis, 849, and M. L. Devine, 1,036, for state treasurer.

James K. Bowers, 934, and M. Farrington, 1,033 for register state land office.

James Rothrock, 933, and Joseph C. Knapp, 1,033, for judge supreme court.

John M. McJunkin, 932, and Alexander Runyon, 1,034, for attorney-general.

For congressman N. C. Deering, 939, L. H. Weller, 1,012, scattering, 4.

For judge of the District court, O. J. Clark, 551, and Reuben Noble 1,406.

Robert Quigley, 875, Cyrus Wellington, 1,086, and O. J. Clark 2 for district attorney.

C. F. Webster being elected clerk of the courts with 1,159, his competitor C. M. Brooks, receiving but 709 votes.

William H. Patterson, having 1637 and R. J. Hazledine, 305 votes the former was declared elected county recorder.

For member of the board of supervisors the vote stood A. G. Hubbard, 1,075, and H. P. Marsh, 874.

October 14, 1879.

Total vote polled was 2,243, John H. Gear, 1,059, Daniel Campbell, 1,144, W. H. Trimble, 28, and D. R. Dungan, 12 votes for governor.

Frank T. Campbell, 1,071, M. H. Moore, 1,128, and J. A. O. Yeoman, 27, for Lieut. governor.

Joseph M. Beck, 1,069. M. H. Jones, 1,115, and Reuben Noble, 41, for judge of the supreme court.

Carl Von Coelln, 1,060, J. A. Nash, 1,140, and Erwin Baker, 27, for superintendent of public instruction.

For representative to legislature the vote standing Charles D. Cutting, 961, S. S. Lambert, 1,227, and J. J. Lowry one.

For sheriff S. L. Thomson had 1,106, Jacob J. Lowry, 1,122, S. B. Johnson, 1, and James Thomson, 1.

C. S. Raymond received 897, John E. Peck, 1,329, and P. T. Searles one vote for the office of county auditor.

Fred C. Clark was elected superintendent of schools by a vote

of 1,180 to W. H. Brocksome's, 1,029, with a scattering of four votes.

For coroner, J. McCollum polled 1,057, and H. C. Price, 1,167 votes, with 3 scattered.

The vote for member of board of supervisors stood L. F. Emmons, 1,076, and Thomas McCook, 1,143.

November 2, 1880.

The full votes for president was 2,024, of which the Garfield and Arthur electors received 1,066, the Hancock and English. 285. and the Weaver and Chambers, 673.

For secretary of state J. A. T. Hull received 1,066, A. B. Keith, 281, and George M. Walker, 676 votes.

For state auditor W. V. Lucas received 1,065, Charles I. Barker, 281, and G. V. Swearingen, 676.

For treasurer, E. H. Conger, 1,066, Martin, Blinn, 281, and Mathias Farrington, 676.

J. H. Powers received 1,065, Daniel Daugherty, 279, and Thomas Hooker, 676 for register state land office.

S. M. McPherson, 1,066, C. C. Clark, 279, W. A. Spurrier, 676, for attorney-general.

C. T. Granger polling 1,061 votes with no opposition for the office of judge of the circuit court.

For representative to congress from the fourth district, the vote was divided as follows: N. C. Deering, 1,102, J. S. Root, 223, M. B. Doolittle 654, and 11 scattering.

For judge of the district court E. E. Cooley received 871, O. J. Clark, 1,131, with 6 scattering.

C. F. Webster was elected clerk of the courts having 1,230 votes, and W. F. Daniels, 782, with 2 scattering.

W. H. Patterson taking the office of recorder, having 1,101, his rival, Jerry Barnes scoring only 782.

On the question of having a constitutional convention, 548 were in favor and 288 against the measure.

October 11, 1881.

At the election held on this date the total vote of the county polled was 1,469, Buren R. Sherman receiving 749, D. M. Clark, 678 and L. G. Kinne 42, for governor.

Orlando H. Manning, 749, J. M. Holland, 620, J. H. Holland, 58, and J. M. Walker, 42, lieut. governor.

Austin Adams, 749, W. W. Williamson 678 and H. B. Hendershott, 42, for judge of the supreme court.

John W. Akers, 745, Adeline M. Swain, 676, and Walter H. Butler, 45, for superintendent of public instruction.

For state senator, C. A. Marshall received 747, M. F. Gillett, 714, and "scattering" one vote.

For representative 66th district, W. R. Jones had 695 votes, while S. S. Lambert received 657.

John E. Peck was barely elected county auditor having 735 votes, while P. T. Searles had 724, and 5 votes scattered.

The vote on treasurer was also very close, Charles I. White receiving 728, and his competitor, P. Griffin, 722, and 5 votes scattered.

J. J. Lowry was elected sheriff, having 758 votes, and S. L. Thomson, 706 votes.

W. W. Williams received 738, and S. B. Johnson, 709, for county surveyor.

Fred C. Clark, 803, and W. W. Williams, 657, for superintendent of schools.

The vote on coroner was another of the closely contested ones standing, O. N. Hoyt, 735, and H. C. Price, 729.

For member of the board of supervisors, A. G. Hubbard received 757 votes, Patrick Peterson, 703, and "Hubbard" received three.

June 27, 1882.

This was a special election on the question, shall the constitution be amended by adding the following amendment:

"No person shall manufacture for sale, or sell, or keep for sale, as a beverage, any intoxicating liquors, including ale, wine or beer. The general assembly shall by law prescribe regulations for the enforcement of the prohibition herein contained, and shall provide suitable penalties for the violation of the provisions thereof."

The total number of votes cast in Howard county was 1,565, of which 730 were in favor of its adoption, and 835 were against the measure.

November, 7, 1882.

The total vote polled was 1,802, of which John A. T. Hull, re-

ceived 747, W. J. Gaston, 988, and T. O. Walker, 67, for secretary of state.

John L. Brown, 747. G. A. Wyant, 988, and William Thompson 67, for state auditor.

Edwin H. Conger, 742. George Derr, 913, and John Foley, 147, for state treasurer.

William H. Seever, 747, M. H. Jones, 988, and C. E. Bronson, 67, for judge of the supreme court.

Smith McPherson, 747, James A. Rice, 988, and J. H. Brennerman, 67, for attorney general.

For congressman, Thomas Updegraff was in receipt of 756, and L. H. Weller, 1,026 votes, with five scattering.

For judge of the district court of the 10th judicial district, E. E. Cooley polled 930, and L. O. Hatch, 863 votes.

For district attorney, H. P. Hancock received 763, Cyrus Wellington, 1,041, while L. O. Hatch had one vote.

William Theophilus with 1,027 in his favor "got away with" his competitor, Frank Sayre, for the office of clerk of the courts, the latter having only 775 votes.

Carl K. Berg was equally fortunate having 1,181 votes and William H. Patterson, 605, for the office of county recorder.

For member of board of supervisors, the vote stood, James Hendricks, 796, Charles Keefe, 998, and scattering 5.



## CHAPTER IV.

---

### COUNTY SEAT CONTROVERSY; REMOVALS; OFFICIAL ACTION; FINAL SETTLEMENT; PRESENT OFFICERS.

---

During the summer of 1855, the organization of a county government agitated the minds of some of the new settlers, who had located themselves on the prairies and in the sylvan groves of Howard county, but met with but little favor from the many. While the people were but few, and the settlements but feeble, it seemed folly for them to burden themselves with the cumbersome machinery and expensive luxury of a county government. At this time there were probably not more than one hundred and fifty inhabitants, or about sixty or seventy voters residents, in what was to be Howard county. And to saddle upon this weak community the support of the necessary officers, was not to the mind of, possibly, a majority of those who looked ahead. However, a petition was signed by some five or six persons, and sent, sub rosa, to James Lyon, then judge in Chickasaw county, praying that an order be issued from his court to organize the county of Howard (for copy of this petition see page 338). Judge Lyon not being cognizant with the whole facts, decided to make the order, which was accordingly done, and bears the date of July 17, 1855.

The mandate of the judge further recited, that there was to be held an election on the first Monday of August, of the same year, and appointed Edmund Gillett, one of the most prominent citizens, as the sheriff for the purpose of effecting the organization.

The people, calmly acquiescing in the matter, now that it was settled that they were to "enjoy" a county government, went to the polls on the day appointed and elected James G. Upton, county judge; Edmund Gillett, clerk; William Woodward, recorder and treasurer; John Harlow, sheriff, and M. V. Burdick, prosecuting attorney. These were the first county officers.

The next thing was a place of business, or in other words, a county seat and a court house. As most of the officers resided at or near Vernon Springs, this seemed to be the proper place, but the newly born government seems to have been "without a habitation and a home," until in the following year Judge Upton decided that for the time being Vernon Springs was to be considered the center of the county rule.

But other villages were springing into being, and as each of these, according to their proprietors and residents, was "the" place above all others, for a grand city, all laid claim to the position of being the county seat. Land was cheap, and "a good deal of it to the acre," and the proprietors were generous in providing for the width of the streets, avenues, and alleys of the new towns, and each expected metropolitan honors, at least, and each sought to be regarded as the seat of government.

Of these ambitious cities in embryo, how many of them ever emerged from the state of chrysalis. In a few short years their glory has faded, and all that is remembered of them is the memory of their names.

The stillness of their location, instead of being disturbed by the clatter of machinery, resounds but to the voice and footfalls of the plowman; the streets and avenues that their projectors fondly hoped to see lined with palatial stores, busy factories and stately mansions are now filled with the nodding corn or bending wheat, and over the site of these would-be commercial and mercantile centers, wanders the lowing herds.

All, or nearly all, have seen their cherished hopes die, and they

all lie buried 'neath the debris of accumulated years. In 1857 the question that seems infallibly to arise in all communities came to the front, and the removal of the county seat occupied all minds, each town, village, or assemblage of houses, by whatsoever name known, had aspirations for the honor of being the recognized seat of government.

Many were the manoeuvres of the early politician to achieve notoriety for himself and his town, by bringing to bear upon the county judge, who was ex-officio the controller of the county, such influence as would induce him to favor the particular cause he advocated, and locate the county seat with them.

However, from some cause or other, in September of that year, a command was issued from the office of Judge Upton, and countersigned by Edmund Gillett, as clerk, ordering "that the records of Howard county be removed from Vernon Springs, in said county, to Howard Center, and that the courts of said county be hereafter holden at said Howard Center, until otherwise ordered."

This order was obeyed during that fall, and all the records, and other paraphernalia of the county officers, generally, was removed to that place. Here, however, it rested but for a short while, and then set out once more on its travels, reminding one of the peripatetic government of the so-called confederacy of later years.

When the early frosts of winter had tinged the groves, at New Oregon, with their many-hued garments, and the farmer rested from his harvest labors, the dissatisfaction at the removal of the government again cropped out, and the community was torn by the internecine feud—again the question was agitated with all the warmth that such things always engender. Neighborhood was set against neighborhood, and peace seemed to flee the land.

To calm the troubled waters the county judge appointed M. V. Burdick, G. N. Holbrook, and George Bronson a committee to relocate the county seat at such point as seemed, in their opinion, best calculated to please the greatest majority.

After some investigation in the center of the county these gentlemen came to Vernon Springs and New Oregon, then two rising and rival villages, near "Oregon Grove." Here they were, of course,

assailed with the volunteered information that both of these places being the center of population, and the largest settlements in the county, should of right be the home of the county government. As might be expected, each hamlet upheld its own banner and talked for itself.

The citizens of New Oregon, finally, procured a vehicle to convey the commissioners through the surrounding country to demonstrate to them the truth of their assertion, that their town was the center of population, if not that of the geographical county, it being well known that the western part of the county was sparsely settled. The gentlemen were placed in charge of W. R. Mead, then a young lawyer, newly arrived, to show them the vicinity. Through ignorance, on which, perhaps, was counted, or through calculation, they were driven eastward, crossing into Winnesheik county, were shown the thriving farms and settlements of that part of the country, as if it was a part of Howard. This seemed to satisfy the commission, who never dreamed that all this people did not reside in Howard county, and they returned to New Oregon, determined to locate the county seat there, but were met by the delegation from Vernon Springs, who advocated their claim.

These two, between them perplexed the commission, and after a hard wrangle with each, agreed among themselves as to what was best to do. A subscription having been started to build a court house, it was proposed to the two towns that, as both could not have it, and for peace sake, it would not do to give it to either, that they (the commission), would locate the said county seat at a place known as Pike's Peak, a bluff equi-distant from both, on the main road leading from one to the other, provided the said subscription should be applied to the building of a court house.

These terms were accepted, and the place designated was made the seat of government.

The court house was built in February, 1859, at this point, by the subscriptions raised by the citizens of both towns, and once more "peace spread her pinions o'er the land."

Thus things remained, until in 1865 it was found that, as the



building was built of bass wood the elements and the years had worked their will with it until it was unsightly and unsafe.

We find recorded that at the session of the board of supervisors, in September, 1865, the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas, The building now occupied by the county officers of Howard county has become so dilapidated by age, as to render it unfit for office purposes, and an unsafe repository for the records of said county;" the resolution going on to state that the county had been tendered the use of a building, owned by L. L. Halstead, and located in the village of Vernon Springs.

The building was built of stone and was in every way fitted for the use of the county, and the board resolved to remove the records and fixtures, together with the county officers, to the building and town aforesaid—that to be considered the county seat and court house. The board met at Vernon Springs for the October session, but owing to the opposition of the New Oregon people, the offices were not removed thither. At this session the offer of Vernon Springs was renewed, but was met by the counter offer of New Oregon, who agreed to build a brick court house, and give the use of it free to the county. Neither of these propositions were accepted, however, by the board, and the offices still remained at "the bluff."

In January, 1867, however, a new rival for the county seat appeared upon the scene, in the shape of the now growing railroad town of Cresco; the rapid rise and progress of which was casting into dim shade all the other towns, and whose pretence of claim for the county seat was warranted by the fact that it then contained nearly one-sixth of the population of the entire county.

At the session of the board of supervisors, held during this month, an intimation was given the board that Cresco aspired to the honor of the county government, and in a few days a petition was presented, in which was prayed, that the honorable board would transfer the offices of the county to their town, and making a proposition to erect for the accommodation of the same a building of brick and in every way suitable for the purpose intended.

The board taking the matter under advisement, accepted an invitation to view the proposed site of the court house, in Cresco,

and from the best reports handed down by tradition, the county fathers evidently had a good time and possibly "saw" the matter in its greatest extent.

However, be that as it may, it was hastily resolved by them to accept the offer, and the following was placed upon the records:

"Resolved, By the board of supervisors of Howard county, that the proposition of Messrs. Beadle and others to build a court house and furnish it, free of any expense, to the county, and also to provide a hall for the meetings of the board, and for court purposes, be and is hereby accepted; the sheriff is directed to remove the records, etc., at the time contemplated, viz: On or before June 1, 1867.

At the June session, again, the board directed the county officers "to remove their offices to the building now being constructed by the Howard county court house association in the village of Cresco, whenever the committee shall decide to accept it as a safe and suitable place for the same."

This was accordingly done. But, by a legal fiction, the old court house, on the bluff, was still regarded as the county seat, only the offices and records being moved to Cresco for safety and convenience.

At the September session of the board of supervisors, 1876, the following appears upon the minutes:

"There was presented a petition to relocate the county seat at Cresco."

The board, therefore, issued the following proclamation:

"To the legal voters of Howard county, Iowa:

You are hereby notified, that at the regular session of the board of supervisors of the county of Howard, Iowa, held at the court house in the said county, commencing on the first day of September, 1876, a petition of over one thousand of the qualified electors of said county, was presented to the said board of supervisors, asking that the said board order that at the next general election, to be held in said county, on November 7, 1876, a vote be taken in said county by the qualified electors thereof, upon the question of relocating the county seat of said county, which said

petition designates Cresco, in said county, as the point at which said petitioners desire to have the said county seat relocated, and it appearing to the said board that due notice of the presentation of such petition to the board of supervisors had been given by three insertions in the Iowa Plaindealer, a weekly newspaper, published in said county, the last of which was more than sixty days before the said September meeting of the said board of supervisors, and it appearing to the board of supervisors by the affidavits accompanying the said petition, that the signers thereof were all legal and their signatures genuine, and that at least one-half the legal voters of said county, as shown by the last preceding census, had signed said petition, it was therefore ordered by the said board of supervisors that at the next general election to be held in said county, on November 7, 1876, the question of relocating the county seat of said county be submitted to the qualified electors of said county, and that said vote be taken, between Cresco, in said county, and the present existing county seat, and that the form of the ballot thereof be as follows:

For the county seat at Cresco; For the county seat at the place designated by the commissioners in 1858, about half way between the villages of New Oregon and Vernon Springs; of all which you will take due notice, and govern yourselves accordingly."

THOS. GRIFFIN, }  
JAMES OAKLEY, } Supervisors.  
A. G. HUBBARD. }

"On looking up the election returns of November 7, 1876, it will be found that, notwithstanding one thousand voters signed the petition, some no doubt changing their minds, the vote stood: 800 in favor of relocating it at Cresco, and 969 against it, or rather in favor of retaining it where it was, in no man's land, off on the dreary bluff in a tumble down, dilapidated structure, once known as the court house.

Men now asked themselves the question of what was to be done, and many plans were canvassed, but nothing came of it, until after the burning of the court house at Cresco, and the re-erection of it it was a mooted question. Then was carried into effect the most feasible plan, viz: The lines of the incorporated town of

Cresco, on the southern boundary, were extended so as to include the old bluff, whose crown lifted heavenward, was the recognized seat of government. When this was done, by vote of the board the court house was legally moved to the court house square, and the present beautiful and commodious building was erected. So ended the county seat question, for the time, at least.

Less acrimony was developed in the conflict of later years than is usual in such cases. The present officers (1883), are: John E. Peck, auditor; Charles I. White, treasurer; Carl K. Berg, recorder; Wm. Theophilus, clerk; J. J. Lowry, sheriff; Fred. C. Clark, county superintendent, all of whom may be found at their offices in the above building. The present members of the board of supervisors are: Charles Keefe, A. G. Hubbard, and James Oakley.



## CHAPTER V.

RAILROADS, THEIR INCEPTION AND COMPLETION; JOURNALISM IN  
HOWARD COUNTY; EARLY NEWSPAPERS, AND EARLY ADVERTISERS.

## RAILROAD.

The various attempts and projects of earlier days to change the the roads of mud to that of iron, may be but briefly outlined in this chapter.

The Iowa and Minnesota division of that monster corporation, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, that now crosses the county, is simply an out growth of the McGregor Western railroad.

The first account, we find of any attempt to procure a railroad is on record, and in the form of a

## PROCLAMATION.

STATE OF IOWA, }  
COUNTY OF HOWARD. } ss.

In pursuance of the code of Iowa, and at the request of a portion of the people, of said county, an election is hereby ordered to be held in the several townships in said county of Howard, on the third day of August, A. D. 1857, at the places where the last April elections were held, to vote upon the question, whether the said coun-

ty of Howard, shall take \$150,000 of the stock of the Northwestern railroad company and issue bonds in payment therefore, bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum; the principal sum to be paid in twenty years; and that a tax be levied upon the taxable property of said county, for the payment of interest and principal.

The said railroad company to pay the interest on said bonds, until said road is in operation to the east line of said county of Howard; bonds to be issued when said road shall be in operation to Decorah, Winnesheik county, and permanently located to the west line of Howard county.

The form of the vote shall be, "for the railroad stock" "against the railroad stock."

Every affirmative vote shall be considered for the proposition entire.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said county, this first day of July, A. D. 1857.

JAMES G. UPTON,  
County Judge.

[SEAL.]

It would seem, from the absence of anything in the records, that this scheme was a flash in the pan, that nothing came of it, as the Northwestern railroad company never came in the direction indicated. The matter was dropped until 1863.

It was at the September session, of the board of supervisors, of the county, that it was proposed to submit to the legal electors of the county, a proposition to donate all the lands in the county known as "swamp lands," to aid in the construction and equipment of the McGregor Western railroad, on the condition, that the before mentioned railroad build a road from North McGregor westward, to intersect the county of Howard, from east to west.

This was ordered to be voted on by the people of the county at the next general election, and the clerk of the board instructed to make proclamation in accordance therewith.

Accordingly at the election, held October 10, 1865, the question being placed before the qualified electors of the county, for their approval or rejection, the donation was ratified by the people by some means which is gathered by subsequent proceedings as the election returns show upon their face that they rejected it by a vote of 390 to 141, but some error must be in the record, as after develop-

ments show that the swamp lands were donated by the board about this time. The loosely kept minutes of these early times, causes considerable confusion, and leaves much matter to be gathered from the context.

At the Oct., session, we find that the board passed a resolution, that the question of extending the time, in which the McGregor Western railroad contract to build their road, through Howard county, be submitted to the people the railroad company not being able to fulfill the said contract, in regard to point of time, and also on the question of giving the same railroad the benefit of all the swamp lands within the borders of the county.

In October of the same year, an election being holden for the purpose, the vote stood, "for extending time to the McGregor Western railroad" 212, against such extension 20 votes.

On the question of giving the said railroad the entire benefit of the swamp lands 149 were in favor and, 70 against the measure.

It was during the year, 1866, that the McGregor Western, first crossed the county line, entering on section twenty-three in Vernon Springs township, and instead of fulfilling their engagements, with the people of the county, and intersecting the entire county from the east to west, turned their line northwest passed out of the limits of the county, after running along, for a short distance on the northern boundary, at section ten in the township of Oakdale. The number of miles of track, within the bounds of the county is, as was then built twenty-four and thirty-four one hundredths (24.34) divided as follows:

Vernon Springs township, including the town of Cresco, 8.49 miles; Howard Centre township, .25; Forest City township, 6.40; Chester township, 6.40; Oakdale township, 2.84.

This non-fulfillment of their contract by the railroad, seems to have been a fruitful source of trouble, the officers and people of the county, justly finding fault because the road did not intersect the entire county, which was part of the contract, entered into by the railroad company.

It seems that the action of the county, in donating these swamp lands to the railroad was not entirely legal, and the railroad company, in 1868, went to the legislature of the state asking them to legalize the action.

But at a meeting of the board of supervisors, held February 3d,

1868, a resolution was passed and a petition drawn up in accordance therewith, praying the legislature, not to pass the bill, then before them, legalizing the act of a previous board of supervisors, in conveying to the McGregor Western railroad, all the swamp lands of the county, on the plea, that the said railroad had failed to carry out the provisions of the original contract, entered into with the people of the county.

Suit was entered into against the railroad, for a recovery of the lands and breach of contract pleaded as the cause, but in July, 1869, the matter was adjusted and the suits withdrawn and the lands left in possession of the company, the railroad agreeing to locate a station at the town of Chester, which condition was accordingly carried out and Chester became a depot of the railroad.

The line passed into the possession of its present owners, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad company, shortly after the settlement of the above question, and still is owned and operated by them.

There are four stations within the limits of Howard county, viz: Cresco, Bonair, Lime Spring and Chester.

Two additional railroads are on the tapis and possibly may be built in the future, one ascending Crane Creek, and passing through the county, nearly in the centre from south to north; the other on the natural grade of the "Wapsie" in the western part of the county in nearly the same direction.

These roads are as yet in the womb of time, but the general impression prevails, that one or both may be built, and that right speedily. This would be a considerable help to the county giving, them more direct communication with market, and induce the settlement of the waste places of the county.

#### JOURNALISM

The Anglo-Saxon, where ever he goes seems instinctively to plant, almost the first thing, those mighty engines of civilization, that hand-in-hand go down the mighty corridor of time, with resounding steps—the school and the press. No better index as to the state of society—or the thrift of a community can be found, than in the press it supports. Look at the question, and decide the matter which way you will, whether the press is the power behind



the throne, or simply the mirror of public thought—whether it is the leader or follower of opinions of the community, it must be conceded that the newspaper does not spontaneously arise in, nor thrive on virgin soil, but flourishes in a cultivated garden.

The press of Howard county is not in this respect one whit behind the other counties or in the standard that betrays the culture of the inhabitants.

The birth of the first newspaper, in Howard county, was an event, remembered by all the pioneers. Its initial issue was dated February 18, 1858 and was called the "Howard County Sentinel" and was published at New Oregon. The proprietorship was vested in the Howard county printing association, of which S. M. Oole was president; D. D. Sabin, vice president; M. M. Moon, treasurer; W. R. Mead, secretary; and James G. Upton, J. F. Mitchell, J. S. Lawver, E. W. Allen, George W. Schofield, C. M. Munson, and J. J. Clemmer, were directors. The editor was J. Howard Field, one of the bright luminaries of the journalistic corps, and who was more recently, and perhaps is now, connected with the staff of the "Chicago Journal" in an editorial capacity. This paper was neutral and independent in politics and religion and was a seven column folio and presented a very creditable appearance, both in the editorial and mechanical departments.

The fortunes of this paper were destroyed, with the office, by fire, during the year 1859 whereupon the association dissolved and did not attempt its resuscitation.

The second paper was ephemeral in its duration, expiring of inanition within a year. It was a rival of the above named Sentinel and was established in 1858. The name was the "North Iowa Gazette" and the first issue is dated from Vernon Springs, March 26, and was also a seven column paper, owned by Harrison and Peck and was democratic in politics.

Immediately upon the burning of the office of the Sentinel and the dissolution of the association, H. Lick and W. R. Mead ventured their bark upon the stormy seas of pioneer journalism, in the form of the "New Oregon Plaindealer", the former as publisher and the latter as editor. Shortly after its inception F. J. Mead became possessed of the interest of Mr. Lick and the paper was then issued under the firm name of W. R. and F. J. Mead under which head it continues at Cresco to this day. It was a straight

democrat sheet until quite lately, it having for some time advocated greenback sentiments. This paper was continued successfully until in May 26, 1867, when it was transferred to the town of Cresco.

It has a circulation of about a thousand and is well conducted. It has also in connection with the newspaper office, a good job department, and enjoys a liberal share of the public patronage. W. R. Mead still fills the editorial chair and is the terror of evil-doers for his pen knows no mercy to the criminal against society and law.

Among the advertisers in the first issues of the Plaindealer in 1867, on its location at Cresco we find, the Empire house; B. Isaacs, manufacturer of wagons, buggies, etc.; Mrs. Knowles, millinery and dressmaking; Mrs. J. T. Donahue, millinery and fancy goods; Bones & White, dry goods; J. J. Clemmer, drugs; B. Chapin, Hardware and stoves. W. H. Alleman, boots and shoes; D. Bean, harness; Mrs. F. H. Jewett, photographer; T. Miller, harness. G. A. Purdy, stoves; Perry & Conklin, agricultural machinery; E. B. Sloan, merchant tailor; Burdick & Clouse, general merchandise; Price and Lowry, drugs; Parnell and Myers, blacksmiths. N. H. Knowles, M. D., and J. J. Clemmer, M. D., are also represented among the advertisers with Strother and Kirkpatrick, general merchandise.

W. R. Mead, the editor, one of the representative men of the journalistic fraternity in this section, came to the state of Iowa, in 1854, and employed his time on the "Daily Northwest," then a paper published at Dubuque, by General Geo. W. Jones; he came to Howard county in 1857, intending to resume the practice of law, for which he had been educated, but journalism claimed him for her own and the fates so willed it,

The following, in regard to the press used in printing the New Oregon Plaindealer, is of historical value, as it is related by W. R. Meade, one of the owners of that paper, and is clipped from a late issue of the journal he so ably edits.

"The identical press that Lovejoy had at Alton, Ill., and which was thrown into the Mississippi at the time Lovejoy was killed by a mob, is said to be printing the Belmond, (Iowa), Herald. The editor will ship the press to the Illinois Historical society if they

will ship him in return a new improved power press. Fair enough.  
—[Austin Transcript.

The press mentioned is the one used in this office when the Plain Dealer was established twenty-four years ago; was shipped by steamboat from the scene of its years of submersion, direct to McGregor; was used by us until our enlargement in 1869, when it was sold to G. E. Frost, of Clear Lake, and we understand was transferred by him to its present ownership. It is a press unlike in its construction, any other that we ever saw. In size it is for a six column paper, though we made a seven column paper by reducing the columns to narrow width. In Illinois the democrats threw it into the Mississippi, because it advocated abolitionism; in Iowa the abolitionists threatened to throw it into the Turkey river because it advocated democracy through the Plain Dealer."

In 1858, George W. Haislet, who in later years carried on the Decorah Radical, but now numbered with the dead, established a six column folio paper at Howard Center, called the "Northern Light". This journal was of but one years growth, when it met its demise. From a perusal of its issues we find that Royal O. Thayer, kept a livery stable and John W. Walters, was a carpenter and builder at that place.

During the early part of the year a paper was started, at New Oregon, in opposition to the Plain Dealer, by T. J. Gilmore and Fitz James McKay, and called the "Star of the West," but alas it was almost stifled in its birth and lingered along a sickly life for eleven short weeks and then departed to where so many newspapers go. It was intended to be a weekly paper, and was established for the purpose of publishing the tax sales, of the county—but it proved "weakly" and hence its demise.

The "Howard County Times" was established in Cresco, January 20, 1867, by F. C. Wood and Frank Mix, who were at the same time, editors and proprietors, no uncommon conjunction in this country. It started as a seven column folio, and was intensely and radically republican in politics, and has continued to hold the same opinions yet, although it has increased in size to a six column quarto. In August, 1867, F. C. Wood sold his interest in the paper to his partner, Frank Mix, who shortly afterwards died, but his estate still retained its interest therein, and C. F. Breckinridge, managed

it, until I. A. Hoxie purchased it. Mr. Hoxie shortly afterward sold it to W. N. Burdick, now of the Postville Review.

After running it about a year, in April, 1873, Burdick sold it to W. M. Fogo and W. W. White, under whose management it continued, until April 1, 1873, when Mr. Fogo sold his interest to L. E. Smith, who immediately entered upon the editorial control. On October 21, 1873, Mr. White also sold his interest, Mr. Smith becoming the purchaser, since which time he has been sole owner and editor. The paper was known formerly as the Cresco Times but its name has been changed, under Mr. Smith's charge to its present one.

It is claimed for the Times, that it enjoys the largest circulation of any paper in the county, and is the exponent of radical prohibition and morality and is one of the finest sheets in the section both for the ability displayed in its columns and for the neatness of its mechanical "makeup."

Several more papers have been started in the county but they were of short duration, noticably, the "Peoples Representative" a weekly eight column journal, published at Cresco, in 1873 with George F. Crouch, as editor.

Lime Springs also has enjoyed several papers, but from some cause or other, their demise occurred early in life, and we have no record thereof.



## CHAPTER VI.

---

COUNTY BUILDINGS; COURT HOUSES; JAIL; RESIDENCE OF THE SHERIFF; POOR FARM; EARLY ATTEMPTS AT PURCHASE OF SAME; FINAL ACTION IN REGARD TO COUNTY FARM, ETC.

---

### POOR FARM.

In no country under the sun, has a more magnanimous regard for the poor been displayed than in this noble republican home of ours—and this can be said more particularly of the countries of the great northwest. Howard county, is in this respect, in nowise behind her sister counties.

It was not strange that the pioneer settler discovered, so early, the wants of his poorer neighbor, and was so prompt to extend to him a helping hand, and to inaugurate measures for his relief, beyond his means, when we remember that his state was also one of comparative poverty. "A fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind;" as the poet hath so beautifully sung.

No record has been kept of the many private acts of charity performed by the more affluent citizen toward his needy neighbor. The halo of eloquent silence surrounds them; but, deeply graven, in letters more pure and bright than gold, doth shine the deeds of many noble men and women, of this land, whose christianity and

charity is not alone expressed by their devotion to the services of the church.

The first organized effort on the part of the citizens of Howard county, for the relief of their necessitous brethren, whom misfortune had reduced to penury and want is not recorded, here on earth; perhaps the recording angel has inscribed it upon his book, and the action may bear fruition, elsewhere. Almost the first entries made in the books of the county judge, then ex-officio the county government, relates to the payment of small sums to the needy and destitute; "The poor and needy ye have with ye always" we are told and we know that in the early days of this county's settlement, it was not exempt from the rule. The man reduced, through misfortune or thorough habits the opposite of commendable, could not be allowed to starve or want for shelter—the widow who had been left to buffet alone the billows of life's stormy sea, could not be neglected—the helpless orphans, left drifting toward the breakers must be helped, and the true hearted pioneer was not the man to turn his back on them, nor a deaf ear to their cry. Out of the funds at the disposal of the government seemed the best way, to provide for them, all could bear the burden equally and equitably.

For many years the poverty stricken were cared for in the homes that still remained to shelter them—in the homes of the stranger—their maintenance furnished by the county.

In 1866, the first effort was made to purchase a farm and erect buildings, suitable for the keeping and maintaining of those dependent upon the county purse.

During that year, a committee of three of its members was appointed by the board of supervisors, to solicit the terms for the purchase of a farm, suitable for the support of the wards of the county.

The committee were instructed to report to the board the prices, location, terms, advantages, etc., of lands offered them and thought by them fit for the purpose intended. They were further instructed that the county did not wish the land to amount to less than one hundred and sixty acres. They were also empowered to advertise for sealed bids, and to use all discretion in the matter, so as to present a full report, which was to be returned at the next meeting of the board.

The committee consisted of Mrssrs. C. S. Thurber, Stephen Radford and C. W. Field.

At the September session, 1866, the committee handed in their report, which runs, as follows:

"That they have received several proposals of farms for sale, but not anything in their judgment answering the purposes of the county. Your committee would further report, that, in their judgment, they cannot purchase a farm with the necessary improvements, and therefore, would recommend, if the board see fit to purchase a farm, that they procure a piece of unimproved land and make the necessary improvements."

The affair seems to have collapsed, for want of life, at this juncture and the old method of providing for the poor still continued and we hear no more of the scheme until 1868, when, at the January session of the board, they passed the following resolution, in regard to the matter under discussion:

"Whereas, It is deemed advisable, by this board, that some provision be made for the poor of the county, whereby they may be subsisted at a less cost to the county, than by the present method, therefore;

"Resolved, That a committee of three, be appointed to look for a feasible site for a "poor house farm," improved or unimproved; ascertain the cost of the same, estimate the cost of the necessary buildings and improvements. and report to this board, at the June session, with a view to submit the proposition to a vote of electors, of this county, at the next general election, according to the provisions of the code of the state of Iowa."

Messrs. C. S. Thurber, Thomas Griffin and W. H. Patterson were the committee appointed, the latter being clerk of the board.

This committee, as instructed, returned a report at the June session, saying that they had viewed the place of Albert Miller, at Saratoga, of which the price was three thousand dollars, there being one hundred and sixty acres, twenty-five acres of timber, forty-five or fifty under cultivation, had a good house erected on it, was well watered and the means of access was good, being on the Main road, from Cresco to Osage. They also reported, that they had looked at the farm of Keuling and Robinson, about two miles south of Saratoga, which contained some three hundred and twenty acres, was well watered, with the means of access equally

good, the land was of excellent quality and could be purchased for the sum of \$1530. This they considered remarkably cheap, and estimated, that the necessary improvements could be made for the sum of \$3500, and recommended, that the vote be taken on the amount of \$5000, which would cover all the expense.

At the election held in November, of the same year, the question of levying a special tax, to pay for the poor house farm, the community seemed to think that some better plan existed, to provide a home for the destitute, for the vote stood only 92 in favor of levying the tax and 709 against it. The subject was then dropped for the present. However in 1881, the board became the owners of a farm, the west half of the northeast quarter of section eleven, 99-11, and determined to utilize it for a poor farm, as there was a fine large house on it.

This land had originally been what is known as school, land and was purchased by some parties on contract, but was never deeded. Being covered by mortgages and judgments, the county bought up all claims against it, foreclosed the mortgages and bid it in, at the sale.

The following circular was issued, in regard to it, from the auditor's office by order of the board:

AUDITOR'S OFFICE.

CRESKO, April 12, 1881.

To the Township Trustees of Howard county:

GENTLEMAN.—The board of supervisors have provided a poor house and farm, for the future support of such persons as need permanent relief, and have fixed on the 25th day of April, inst., as the time when all outside allowances shall cease.

You will please notify all such persons as are receiving permanent relief from you, that their allowances will then cease, and that if further relief is required it will be furnished at the poor house, and if they apply, you will give them an order to the Steward of the poor farm for admittance and relief—simply give them the order. Cases will occasionally arise when it will be your manifest duty to furnish a conveyance, but as a rule, the friends of such poor persons should get them to the poor house. The trustees need not meet as a board for the purpose of sending a person to the poor house. The order of one trustee will be sufficient.



In providing temporary relief, great caution should be exercised, lest you and the public be imposed on; the fact that a person is poor, does not entitle such person to support at the public expense.

Many of the tax-payers are poor, and in view of this fact relief should be granted only in cases of extreme destitution. Let your allowances be very sparing until the next meeting of the board of supervisors, when each case should be fully reported by you, and the board will make such disposition of them as economy, the general welfare of the county, and necessity, demands.

The poor expenses of the county for the year 1880, amounted \$23761.57, and are increasing, thus far in 1881, by nearly one half. The board of supervisors are doing all in their power to keep these expenses within reasonable limits, and they respectfully ask your hearty and cordial co-operation.

Hereafter, claims against the county for temporary relief, must be certified to by at least a majority of the board of trustees of the township where the person receiving aid resides.

Enclosed herewith, find blanks for use in sending poor persons to the poor house.

JOHN E. PECK,  
County Auditor.

By order of the Board of Supervisors.

P. S. The poor farm is located about three miles Northwest of Cresco, and was formerly known as the Sumner farm—sometimes called the Marlow place.

J. E. P.

Joseph H. Batterham was appointed steward, at its inception and satisfactorily fills the place to the present writing. Thus through many adverse circumstances has been established this home for the indigent, and the charity of the county is brought under something like management.

#### COUNTY BUILDING.

In the year 1859, when the county seat was located on the bluff, midway between the villages of New Oregon and Vernon Springs, a subscription was raised in both towns, and a building erected and donated to the county. This being built of the most available lumber, basswood, in a few short years, became so dilapidated and rotten through the action of the elements and the exposed position of the structure, the timbers rotting down, the sheathing tumbling off, and the roof leaking, that much apprehension was

excited in the minds of the county officers, as to its being a place of security for the records and other valuable books and papers of a necessity stored therein, and measures were taken, as early as 1865, to have the seat of government removed elsewhere. After some manœuvres on the part of the rival villages mentioned above, in 1867, the board of supervisors of the county accepted the offer of the Howard county court house association to build a brick edifice at Cresco, and put it at the disposal of the county. Immediately, upon the acceptance of this offer, the association commenced to erect the building on the site known as the court house square. The structure was of good size and every way applicable to the purpose for which it was intended. In July, 1867, it was occupied by various officers, who removed there with all their books, papers, and furniture, and the seat of county government, for convenience sake, was removed to Cresco, although the county seat proper, could not be legally moved; for explanation of this, see chapter 1V. This building was then used as the county offices until December 1, 1876, when it was destroyed by fire. The devouring element, with greedy maw, soon wiped out of existence the entire building, and with it the records of the court; the books and papers of the other officers, however, being rescued from the insatiable monster. Many were, and are, the conjectures as to the origin of the fire, and more than one had suspicion that the hand of an incendiary put the torch to the building. This was seemingly strengthened on the development of the Kyte business, and some did not hesitate to aver that he was the guilty party, but of this there exists no certainty, and we should not add, uncharitably, to the burden he already bears. Let us hope that it was not so, for he has crime enough to answer for without charging him with arson. Let the broad mantle of charity cover up his misdeeds, and say that the conflagration was the result of accident.

After the loss of the court house, the association of the citizens of Cresco immediately proceeded to rebuild the edifice, and in a more imposing style of architecture.

The following items of information, in regard to the cost of the building, were obtained from a letter, written by Hon. John McHugh, to a committee of gentlemen, at New Hampton, who inquired respecting it. It would seem from that, that the asso-

ciation paid \$5,707.90, the county giving \$1,040.00, making \$6,747.90, which was paid to the contractor. It is, however, claimed that the said contractors lost \$1,825.00, making the building cost, as follows:

Funds furnished by association .....	\$5,707.90
Funds furnished by county.....	1,040.00
Money lost by contractors .....	1,825.00

---

Making a total cost of.....\$8,572.90

The building is a neat, stylish, red brick edifice, trimmed with Milwaukee brick of a soft cream color. The architecture is of the modern renaissance order, and the architect has displayed much taste in working out his ideas on the subject. A wide corridor through the middle of the first floor, with the offices on each side, presents itself to view on entrance. The recorder the first on the left, and next the treasurer's office; on the right hand the clerk of the court and the auditor hold forth.

The sheriff and county superintendent, are accomodated with offices in the basement. The second story, a fine commodious and well lighted room, is the court room in which is held the different courts when sitting in the county.

The grounds surrounding the court house, are handsomly fenced with an ornamental railing of iron, and artistically laid out. The county jail, and residence of the sheriff attached thereto, are located within the same enclosure, north of the court house.

The jail is one of the best in this section of country. In June, 1882, the board of supervisors instructed the auditor to advertise for bids for the building of a jail, the same to be erected of brick, with steel-clad cells, and also, for the erection of a residence, for the sheriff, to be attached, thereunto.

But on their receipt, the proposals, not proving to the satisfaction of the officials, they determined to carry out their ideas, by erecting the buildings, themselves. A. G. Hubbard was appointed as a building committee, to superintend the operation. Great satisfaction resulted from this action as well as considerable economy.

The business abilities of the board, were employed on this business of the county's, to the same extent as would have been exerted, had it been some of the private affairs, of their own. The

cost of the steel clad cells, with the necessary fixtures, and the expense of putting them in place, was the greatest part of the outlay, being \$3500.

The entire cost of residence, jail and everything, foots up to \$8,885, but the outlay has been not wasted, and the county has received full value for it money.

The jail is one of the best and most complete, for one of its size, in the northwest. The edifice is built of brick, the walls being very heavy and thick, and measures 22x24 feet, and thirteen feet high. A thick pavement or floor was first made under the cells, apparently burglar proof, being two feet thick and using some five cords of stone and seventeen barrels of cement in the making.

There are two cells, built of steel—or steel-clad—each six feet long by eight feet wide and seven high, with a corridor between five by thirteen feet in dimension. Each cell will hold four prisoners on a pinch. Above the cells is a water tank which supplies a bountiful supply of water for drinking and cleansing purposes.

The cells are made of five thicknesses or plys of hardened steel bars riveted together, and which are so hard that the usual burglars, saw will make no impression on them. They are opened and closed with the patent lever attachment, and the whole outfit is entirely first-class.

The unparalleled success of the financiering, of the last few years, in the accounts and funds of the county, cannot be lightly passed over in this connection, and could only be accomplished by splendid business ability and strict integrity united to peerless energy. We have it from undoubted authority, that, in 1877, when the affairs of the late treasurer, Kyte, were settled up, there was an empty treasury and a bonded indebtedness of over \$20,000, as the only possessions of the county.

By a rigid system of economy, and an ability of financiering not often displayed, at least in public affairs, without raising the rate of taxation, the poor farm has been established, the jail built and paid for, the bonded indebtedness reduced to a merely nominal sum, county warrants brought to par, and money in the treasury to anticipate the current wants of the county. This is

unparalleled in the annals of any county in the state. The taxation is less, and has been so, for the past few years, than ever before, and is still decreasing.

These things are here spoken of, as many people are not aware, or at least are not cognizant, of the entire facts, and truth demands that the gentlemen, who have engineered the finances of the county for the last few years, should have all the honor and praise for their ability, business tact and integrity. With such men as L. T. Emmons, James Oakley, A. G. Hubbard, Thomas McCook and Chas. Keefe at the helm and the true eye of John E. Peck, as auditor, to look out for breakers, the people of Howard county may rest assured that their interests will not suffer:



## CHAPTER VII.

---

EDUCATIONAL; COUNTY SCHOOLS; TEACHERS; COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS; INSTITUTES; CENSUS RETURNS FOR 1860, 1870, 1875 AND 1880, ETC.

### EDUCATIONAL

Howard county, considered from an educational stand-point, takes very high rank, among the sisterhood of counties. The statistics show that in 1882, as taken from the report of the county superintendent, there were in the county 3,235 children within the county, between the ages of five twenty-one years divided as follows:

Afton township, 389; Chester, 172; Forest City (out districts), 141; Lime Springs station, 197; Howard, 248; Howard Center, 153; Jamestown (outside district), 122; Riceville, 32; New Oregon, 365; Oakdale, 136; Paris, 285; Saratoga, 134; Vernon Springs (outside districts), 211; Cresco, 419; Albion, 253.

There are enrolled in the county, out of these 2,864 scholars as attendants at the various schools, and the attendance is above the usual average by several per cent.

There are seventy-eight frame, three brick, and three stone school houses in the county and altogether valued at \$58,630, some quite commodious and pretentious in architecture and many of them worth from \$2,000 dollars upwards and one, that at Cresco, one of the best in northern Iowa, valued at \$14,000.

Quite a number are supplied with expensive apparatus, and five report having libraries, one with 2,500, and another, 1,500 volumes contained therein.

There are forty-six male and ninety female teachers, employed at an average compensation of \$38, for males and \$26 for females, although some of each receive quite respectable salaries. The great fault with Howard county, as with many others, is the paying of such small salaries, to their instructors, which is of itself reprehensible, for it keeps many truly competent people out of the ranks and leaves to mediocrity alone the task of teaching the rising generation.

When this mistaken policy, and false economy is done away with the school system will be complete but under the present rule, salaries are so small in many instances, as to be less than can be earned at any other employment, and people have got through working for glory.

The cost of tuition varies largely in each township, partly owing to some of them having a sparsely settled community, and but few children attending the school. We give the average cost per pupil by townships, and for the independent districts of Cresco, Lime Springs and Riceville and others.

Oakville independent district.....	\$ 1 85
Liberty " " .....	2 05
Lincoln " " .....	2 85
Nichols " " .....	2 38
Darrow " " .....	1 07
Albion " " .....	2 50
Florenceville " " .....	2 16
Cresco " " .....	99
Lime Springs " " .....	1 17
Riceville " " .....	1 41
Forest city township " .....	3 26
Oakdale " .....	2 25
Jamestown " .....	2 75
Saratoga " .....	1 80
Howard Centre " .....	2 50
Chester " .....	2 50
Howard " .....	2 46
Afton " .....	1 46
Vernon Springs " .....	4 00

Paris township .....	2 16
New Oregon " .....	2 43

The first county superintendent of public schools, we have any record of, is C. E. Brown who seems to have held the position prior to 1858, but of this fact it is not certain, however; the list is as follows:

C. E. Brown, from 1858 to 1861.

Adam Fussell, from 1861, until September, 1862, when he resigned, and the board appointed T. W. Lee, who held from 1861 to 1869.

C. F. Breckenridge, from 1869 to 1873.

O. N. Hoyt, from 1873 to 1877.

W. H. Brocksome, from 1877 to 1879.

Fred C. Clark, from 1879, and present officer.

The first normal institute held within the county, of which there exist any record, was during the spring of 1876. This was conducted by J. C. Gilchrist, of St. Paul, assisted by J. Breckenridge, of Decorah, and Miss Addie Bucklin.

There seems to be a hiatus existing in the records of these institutes, for the next we can find any account of, was held at Cresco, in 1880, there were enrolled fourteen male and sixty-nine female attendant teachers. J. Breckenridge, of Decorah, was conductor, assisted by R. S. Holway, Rev. S. G. Smith, A. S. Benedict and A. E. Anderson.

In 1881 was held the next with L. T. Weld, the efficient principal of the Cresco school, as conductor, assisted by Geo. Chandler, C. H. Valder, Mrs. Weld and among the lectures was Carl Von Cœlln, the state superintendent of public instruction.

At the institute of 1882, L. T. Weld was conductor as before, assisted by R. G. Young, with Mrs. M. H. Hunt, and S. P. Leland as lecturers. The attendance was sixteen male and sixty-seven female.

The following circular, issued as we go to press, by the county superintendent, explains itself:

"To Teachers and Those Intending to Teach:

The annual teacher's normal institute, of Howard county, for 1883, will be held in the public school building, at Cresco, commencing March 19th and continuing two weeks.

The institute will be conducted by Prof. L. T. Weld, of Cresco,



and Prof. J. Breckenridge, of Decorah. All who intend to teach are cordially invited to come the first day, and remain during the entire session. The benefit derived from attending the institutes, are fully appreciated by all progressive teachers, and we feel confident that they will attend if it is possible for them to do so. In order, however, to reach some who have been teaching several terms, without making any visible improvement, and who seem to be satisfied if they can get a second or third grade certificate (renewed), we feel compelled to say: that no third, or second grade certificate will be renewed; and those who fail to attend the institute must expect to pass a most rigid examination if they continue to teach. Our state superintendent, Hon. J. W. Akers, will deliver a lecture before the institute. An examination will be held at the close of the institute. Hoping to meet you all on the first day of the institute, I remain yours respectfully,

F. C. CLARK, County Superintendent.

There are now in the county one hundred and fifty-seven teachers, who hold the following certificates:

First grade, 13 males, and 23 females; second grade, 22 males, and 51 females; third grade, 12 males, and 36 females.

While in 1880 there were about one hundred, out of which number sixty-six held first grade certificates, but by raising the standard of examination the number has been decreased, but the grade has gained in efficiency. The description of the school houses of Cresco and Lime Springs may be found under the respective heads of those towns.

#### CENSUS.

According to the United States census of 1860, the county of Howard, state of Iowa, contained 3168 inhabitants, of all ages, sexes, and colors.

The following table is a slight abstract from the census of 1870, of Howard county, as made by the United States:

Number of white inhabitants.....	6,270
Number of colored inhabitants.....	12
Number of acres improved land.....	44,235
Number of horses.....	2,175
Number of mules.....	37
Number of milch cows.....	2,734
Number of working oxen.....	431

Number of sheep.....	1,648
Number of swine.....	2,640
Number of bushels of wheat raised.....	321,514
Number of bushels of corn raised.....	120,234
Number of bushels of oats raised.....	263,258
Number of bushels of barley raised.....	13,357
Number of bushels of potatoes raised.....	30,713
Number of tons of hay made .....	14,880
Number of pounds of butter made.....	408,351
Number of pounds of cheese made.....	4,476
Number of pounds of wool raised.....	5,153

We also find that the value of property in the county is returned, in 1870, as follows:

Total assessed value, of all real and personal estate.....	\$1,426,727
Total true value of all real and personal estate	4,131,132
Total taxes levied in the county.....	45,754

The manufacturing interests of Howard county are represented, for 1870, as follows:

Number of manufacturing establishments.....	32
Number of hands employed.....	69
Capital employed.....	\$54,350
Wages paid.....	8,310
Material used.....	52,279
Products.....	86,292

In 1875 the census, as returned to the sixteenth general assembly of the state of Iowa, shows, as follows:

White male inhabitants in county.....	4,199
White female inhabitants in county.....	3,647
Colored male inhabitants.....	18
Colored female inhabitants.....	11
Number of horses in county.....	3,433
Number of mules.....	58
Number of milch cows.....	4,358
Number of work oxen.....	279
Number of other cattle.....	8,018
Number of hogs.....	5,777
Number of sheep.....	1,605
Number of acres of improved land in the county.....	115,823

There was raised in Howard county, and sold during the year 1874, products of the farm and dairy, as follows:

	Bushels.
Wheat .....	582,803
Corn.....	307,912
Oats.....	340,268
Barley .....	34,047
Buckwheat.....	1,251
Potatoes .....	62,472
Turnips.....	11,729
	Pounds.
Butter.....	323,116
Cheese (not factory).....	16,671
Wool .....	6,663.
	Tons.
Hay .....	21,905

Below we give the census of the number of inhabitants in Howard county, by townships, for the year 1880:

Albion.....	620
Afton .....	661
Chester .....	391
Cresco (town) .....	1201
Forest City.....	941
Howard .....	381
Vernon Springs.....	752
Howard Center.....	381
Jamestown.....	389
New Oregon.....	1153
Oakdale.....	255
Paris .....	571
Saratoga.....	179
Total.....	7875

## CHAPTER VIII.

---

VERNON SPRINGS TOWNSHIP; LOCATION; EARLY SETTLEMENT; VILLAGE OF VERNON SPRINGS; FIRST STORE, SAW MILL, GRIST MILL, CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS; CRESCO; RISE AND PROGRESS; EARLY MERCHANTS, CHURCHES, NEWSPAPERS AND PRESENT STATE OF SOCIETIES, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND GENERAL BUSINESS. RECORDS OF SCHOOL BOARD OF INDEPENDENT DISTRICT OF CRESCO.

---

### VERNON SPRINGS TOWNSHIP.

H. D. Noble in an article published in the Cresco Times of July 6, 1876 gives the following in regard to Vernon Springs township which is made from township ninety-nine, range eleven.

"The first settlement was made by Oren Sprague, who built the first saw mill in Howard county, at the head of the grove on Turkey river, near what was later the town of Vernon Springs in the year 1853. William Harlow, — Noonan, Thomas Fitzgerald and Thomas Granathan also took up claims about the same time in this precinct. The year after James G. Upton, first county judge, E. Gillett, first county clerk, M. G. Goss, M. L. Shook (on a claim taken first by Woodworth, alias "Old Frosty," of Decorah.)

In August 1854, H. Blodgett and J. M. Fields came into this precinct as permanent settlers.

Mr. Noble further says; "There is no hesitancy calling this township the most beautiful of all Howard county, being a succession of groves and prairies, more equal in distribution than any other section; well watered by numberless springs and spring streams; more good dry tillable land, with convenient spring courses for stock raising and grass growing—being at that point of the great military ridge running from McGregor northwest, where the knolls gradually roll into level prairie—it is par excellence the township of Howard county. It contains the village of

#### VERNON SPRINGS.

Here the saw mill of Sprague had soon a neighbor for in 1854, Henry Milder, erected a store which was known as the "blue store."

The saw mill has long since given way to the extensive grist mill and saw mill erected by A. H. Harris, on its site, being the first mill (grist) erected in the county, and one that brought customers from the west and the northwest the full distance of a hundred miles or more. The store mentioned has given way to new ones, in 1859 the village contained two stores, one extensive distillery with brewery, steam saw and grist mill combined, one water grist mill and saw mill, one tannery, two blacksmith shops, one shoe shop, one wagon shop one hotel; and an unfinished school house, The professional men at that time were, one doctor J. H. Bowers and one lawyer F. Belfoy.

The Baptist church was organized in 1857 with C. E. Brown as pastor.

The Methodist Episcopal church dates its organization from 1858 Rev's Fall, Waterburg and Young being among the early pastors.

The county seat was located at Vernon Springs in August 1855, by James G. Upton, county judge.

The township was organized in 1855, J. F. Thayer and C. S. Thurber being elected justices of the peace. The first school in the precinct was taught by Aaron Kimball in 1857—8.

Although the village of Vernon Springs once occupied a conspicuous place in the county, and bade fair to grow into a large and thriving town, the rising glories of Cresco, so near it on the line of the railroad, so dimmed its light that it has gently settled back until a view of it calls to mind some thoughts of Goldsmiths,

"deserted village"—verily its glory hath departed. The present county seat and largest and most important town in the county is the city of

## CRESCO

which is located on portions of section 22, 23, 26 and 27 of this township, and is one of the liveliest and most flourishing of all the prairie cities.

The land, upon which this town now stands, was entered at the general land office in September, 1856, by Horace Barber, as the records show. In October, 1857; it was sold by him to M. L. Shook, who after holding it for some nine years, again sold it to Augustus Beadle during the month of April, 1866, who sold a part interest in it to W. B. Strong and B. H. Edgertown, and who immediately had it platted and laid out into town lots, the plat being placed upon record June 12, the same year. Several additions have since been added, necessitated by the surprising growth of the town, of which the most important are, Beadle Strong and Hungerford's, on the remaining portion of section 25; Baldwin's on the south-east quarter of section twenty-four; and Beadle's on the north-west quarter of section twenty-six.

Of its early settlement but little can be said. The old Greek Mythology told how Minerva sprang full armed from the head of Jove and thus it seems with the birth of Cresco that sprung into being a full fledged city. A bald prairie, which had been covered with the waving grain the season before, in June 1866 was covered with buildings, and the town made quite an appearance as such; so marvelous was its rapid rise—even in these days of mushroom growth—that it stands without a parallel in the country. We find among the first merchants of the town, who settled there on its first inauguration. Strother and Kirkpatrick, who were large dealers in general merchandise; Bones and White, dry goods; J. J. Clemmer, drugs, paints and oils; B. Chapin, stoves and hardware; G. A. Purdy, stores; Burdick and Clouse, general merchandise; Price and Lowry, drugs and medicines; W. H. Alleman; boots and shoes; Perry and Conklin, agricultural machinery; Mrs. J. T. Donahugh, millinery and fancy goods. There were also at the same time the following parties in business in the town B. Isaacs, manufacturer of buggies, wagons, etc.; Parnell and Myers, blacksmiths; D. Beam and F. Miller, harness makers; Mrs. F. H.

Jewett, photographer; Mrs Knowles and Co., milliner and dress-makers, and E. B. Sloan merchant taylor. The earliest physicians to locate at this point were N. H. Knowles, M.D. and J. J. Clemmer, M. D. who attended to the wants of the sick and hurt of the community, the latter gentleman, has "served his country" several times in an official manner, being for several terms, county coroner, and still resides in the town, and engaged in the practice of his profession, and owns and operates a large drug store in connection therewith.

The hotel interest was also well represented at the time as we find the record of two good houses in the year 1867.

The Empire house, then engineered by J. DeNoyelles, now of the town Nashua; and the Durham house.

About all the lawyers, whose names we find in the early records, are W. R. Mead and H. A. Goodrich, we know that there were more for what town is there in all the broad expanse of our native land, of a thousand inhabitants, that cannot boast of more than two of the bright lights of the bar.

In the early part of 1868, the question of incorporation came to the front, and, after some agitation, seemed to meet the views of the majority and an election was ordered for city officers, and Isaac Gregory, was chosen mayor, on April 20th, that year; the other officers elected were:

W. R. Mead, recorder; Henry Widner, attorney; B. Chapin, treasurer; L. T. Woodcock, J. J. Clemmer, John C. Clark and John E. Peck, as councilmen.

The officers of the city, in 1875 were as follows: J. F. Webster, Mayor; Henry Widner, recorder; H. Clark, treasurer; H. C. McCarty, attorney; with H. E. Crandall, John E. Peck, G. W. Coon, Fred Miller and Jacob J. Lowry as council.

The city was controlled by the following officers, in 1882: Frank Sayre, mayor; F. A. Glass, recorder; with C. F. Webster, John B. Caward, William Wilbraham, Isaac Gregory, J. G. Doane and Henry Young as the the city council

At this writting (March, 1883) the election for city officers has just resulted in the choice of following:

R. J. McHugh, mayor; A. F. Baumgartner, recorder; W. K. Barker, attorney; P. Connolly, treasurer; M. Luther, assessor; E.

H. Donahugh, street commissioner; and J. J. Lowry, H. C. Burgess and C. Frank Stremel, as members of the council.

Almost the first thing to do, it seems, when a new town is formed, is to institute a school, and in this respect Cresco is, in no wise, an exception, as it is recorded that a school was opened, during the first winter of the town's existence, in the building afterwards known as the private residence of Mrs. Bateman.

The independent school district of Cresco, seems to have been formed during the year 1869, but of this there exists no records, "to make assurance doubly sure." Of all that remains, we have carefully gone over, and find that the minutes of the first board of school directors are dated December, 1871. The board then consisted of the following gentlemen: Augustus Beadle, E. Gillett, W. R. Mead, S. A. Stone, and W. H. Patterson. In January, 1872, the new board elected, consisted of Augustus Beadle, S. A. Stone, W. H. Patterson, D. W. Owen, W. R. Meade and E. Gillette, with Chas. I. White as secretary.

This board, at a session held March 4, appropriated some four hundred dollars to purchase four lots, next to the school house lots, so as to give larger grounds for that edifice.

The election for officers of the above board, March 18, resulted in placing Augustus Beadle in the chair; John E. Peck as treasurer; and Chas. I. White, secretary, as before. The board after organizing as above, immediately proceeded to levy a tax of ten mills on the dollar for the school house fund.

Here it may be in order to make the statement that the main part of the present school building was erected of stone, during the summer of 1869, and cost in the neighborhood of \$8,000. The connection will be perceptible when it is seen that this special levy of tax was for the purpose of building an additional wing. It would seem from the records, that during this year, the teachers were Mrs. Archer and Miss Nellie Phelps, together with L. T. Weld as principal.

At a meeting of the school board, held December 3d, 1872, it was

Resolved, That each and every member of the school board be required to visit the school, at least once a month, under penalty of buying the oysters for said school board.



And the resolution apparently clinches the matter by adding "that the said oysters shall be good ones."

The board, at the meeting of March 17, 1873, consisted of A. Beadle, president; John E. Peck, treasurer; C. I. White, secretary; E. Gillett, S. A. Stone, C. V. Jacobs, C. B. Sampson, John Farnsworth and W. R. Mead.

At this meeting the resignation of Miss Nellie Phelps, as teacher, was handed in and accepted, and Mrs. L. T. Weld was appointed to fill the vacancy. Contracts were also signed with L. T. Weld, Mrs. Weld, Miss Lockwood and Miss Nichols, as teachers for the ensuing year, and also with Miss Lucy Thurber for fall term of 1873.

The accommodations for school purposes seems to have proved insufficient, the board appointed a committee, in August, 1873, to procure or build a room suitable for the purpose intended, that of establishing the primary school, separate from other grades. This committee reported, on September 21st following, that they had rented a room of Mr. Jackson, and fitted it up for the use of the said primary grade; and that the same was installed therein.

We find that the board, March 16, 1874, consisted of the following gentlemen:

E. Gillett, president; John E. Peck, treasurer; C. I. White, secretary; C. V. Jacobs, John Farnsworth, C. B. Sampson, S. A. Stone and W. H. Patterson.

The report of the treasurer, of the school money was received March 16, 1874, and shows as follows:

On hand, in school house fund.....	\$1,323 32
On hand in teachers' fund.....	453 00
On hand in contingent fund.....	162 18

---

Total.....\$1,939 50

By resolution, April 6, 1874, the board instructed the clerk to issue the notice of a special election to order a tax to help build additional school house room. And on May 11, the following were named a committee to make plans and specifications for a wing to the school house, 28x52 feet, and also for the same to advertise for bids for the construction of the same: S. A. Stone, E. Gillett, C. I. White and John E. Peck.

This was accordingly done, and the fine additional wing on the

west side of the main building was erected the same year, under their supervision, at a total cost of about \$4,000. This gave the necessary room, and the separate system was abandoned, and the primary grade was restored to its place, in the same building, with the others; placing all under the controlling influence of the principal. The building was now large enough, for the time being, but as will be found farther on, it in time was considered too small, and another wing was added.

June 1, 1874, G. M. Harris was elected a member of the board, to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of C. B. Smith from the town.

The salaries of the teachers of the district are defined this year as being, principal, \$1,000 for the first year, and \$1,200 every succeeding year; first assistant, \$450 first year, \$500 succeeding years; second assistant, \$350 first year, \$400 per year afterwards; assistants in the intermediate departments, \$400 first year, and \$450 thereafter; first assistant in the primary grade, \$400 the first year, \$450 after; second assistant in same department, \$350 the first year, with an increase of \$50 the succeeding years.

The roll of teachers this year is, L. T. Weld, principal; Miss Addie E. Bucklin, first assistant; Mrs. Nichols, Miss Nichols and Miss Lucy Thurber.

The board of 1875 when convened, comprised the following list: S. A. Stone, president; John E. Peck, treasurer; Charles I. White, secretary; John Farnsworth, C. V. Jacobs, W. H. Patterson, P. T. Searles and C. F. Breckenridge.

The following is the roll of teachers in 1875:

L. T. Weld, principal; Mrs. L. T. Weld, Mrs. Nichols, Miss Simonds, Miss Lucy Thurber and Miss Addie E. Barnes.

At the annual meeting, September, 1875, the members of the board present were, S. A. Stone, president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer; Charles I. White, Secretary; P. T. Searles, John Farnsworth, C. V. Jacobs, C. F. Breckenridge, W. H. Patterson.

Board for 1877 consisted of John Farnsworth, president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer; C. I. White, secretary; C. F. Breckenridge, P. T. Searles, C. V. Jacobs, Daniel Platt and C. F. Webster.

In 1878 the following was the composition of the board of directors:

C. V. Jacobs, president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer; Charles I.

White, secretary, with C. F. Breckenridge, C. F. Webster, Daniel Platt, L. E. Smith, and W. H. Patterson.

The roll of the teachers for the same year is given, as follows:

L. T. Weld, principal; Mrs. L. T. Weld, Mrs. Nichols, Miss Viola Webster, Miss Kittie Harris, teachers, with one vacancy.

Under date of June 10, 1878, a resolution is found, instructing the secretary to call a special election of the voters of the district, to authorize the board to issue bonds to build another wing to the school house. The election was held, and it was found that the people of the city had the necessary confidence to make the authorization. The bonds were accordingly issued, and C. V. Jacobs and Daniel Ratt were appointed a committee to put in the foundation for the east wing of the school house. This was built at a cost of \$200, the board entering into a contract with J. F. Mitchell, he agreeing to erect the same for that sum.

In the fall of 1878 the contract was likewise let for the erection of the building, S. H. Clark being the contractor, whose bid for \$2,928 was the lowest and best.

The school board for the year 1879 consisted of the following gentlemen:

J. F. Donahugh, H. E. Lomas, Daniel Platt, L. E. Smith, W. H. Patterson, with C. F. Webster as president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer, and C. I. White, secretary.

During March, 1880, the new board of school directors assumed the control, and consisted of the following gentlemen:

L. E. Smith, president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer; Charles I. White, secretary; Daniel Platt, H. E. Lomas, W. H. Patterson, and J. F. Donahugh. No better board could have occupied the responsible position.

By a resolution the salary of the principal, L. T. Weld, was made \$1,200 per year, and that of all the assistants made a uniform rate of \$35 per month.

It was during this year that the first class, under the present rule and grade, was graduated with all the honors. The occasion was made a season of festivity and rejoicing in a sober, intellectual way. The ceremonies and the entertainment furnished by the exercises are spoken of by many to this day.

January, 1881, it was found, as the money market had grown easier and the rate for the use of moneys had become less, that

the bonds of the independent school district of Cresco could be refunded at six per cent., and the board passed a resolution, instructing the clerk to proceed to do so immediately. The matter was soon adjusted on this basis, and some money was saved to the treasury by the action.

In March, of the same year, the new board was organized, as follows:

L. E. Smith, president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer; C. I. White, secretary; H. E. Lomas, Daniel Platt, J. F. Donahugh, John Farnsworth, and C. F. Webster.

Six lots were purchased by the district, in October, 1882, of Augustus Beadle, in the school house block, for the sum of \$350, giving the children a fine, large play-ground, and adding to the beauty of the surroundings of the school house.

The following is an abstract from the report of the treasurer of the independent school district of Cresco, delivered to the board at their meeting held March 20, 1882.

Annual report of money's received and paid out by the treasurer, for the year ending February 28, 1882:

## SCHOOL HOUSE FUND.

	Dr.	Cr.
To amount received of county treasurer.	\$1,702.13	
By amount overpaid at date of last report.....		423.74
By amount paid on bonds and interest..		772.00
By amount on hand.....		506.39
Totals.....	\$1,702.13	\$1,702.13

## TEACHER'S FUND.

To amount on hand at last report.....	\$ 511.19	
To amount received of county treasurer.	3,215.53	
To amount received from apportionment.....	610.74	
To amount received from tuition.....	233.25	
By amount paid teachers.....		\$4,073.27
By amount on hands.....		497.44
Totals.....	\$4,570.71	\$4,570.71

## CONTINGENT FUND.

To amount on hand at last report.....	17	88	
To amount received of county treasurer.....	1167	06	
To amount overpaid.....	224	23	
By amount paid janitor.....			350 00
By amount paid secretary.....			50 00
By amount paid insurance.....			106 00
By amount paid for wood.....			412 15
By amount paid for old orders.....			234 28
By amount paid for repairs, etc.....			256 74
Total.....	\$1409	17	\$1409 17

The present board, at this writing (March 10, 1883,) is composed as follows:

L. E. Smith, president; L. T. Woodcock, treasurer; Charles I. White, secretary; C. F. Webster, John Farnsworth, Daniel Platt, R. J. McHugh, and Doan.

There was in 1879 a bonded indebtedness of the district school house fund afloat, amounting to \$5,000, which with the interest for that year \$350, and indebtedness of the other funds of \$316.67, made a grand total of \$5,666.67, as the incumbrance upon the property belonging thereto.

But by judicious management and real financial ability, the board have reduced the whole debt to about \$1,500, and that with some money in the treasury.

For all the above information we are under obligations to the kindness and courtesey of county treasurer, C. I. White, who is also secretary of the school board, and it is no more than just that we should render the proper acknowledgement.

The following is the annual report of moneys received and paid out by the treasurer of the independent school district of Cresco, for the year ending Eebruary 28, 1883:

## SCHOOL HOUSE FUND.

On hand at date of last report....	\$		\$	506	89
Received of county treasurer.....				1399	99
Paid on bonds.....		1225	00		
Balance on hand.....		681	66		
				1906	66
				1906	66

## TEACHERS' FUND.

On hand at date of last report.....	\$		\$	497 34
Received of county treasurer.....				2797 60
Received of state appropriation...				534 66
Received of Vernon Springs.....				142 00
Received of tuition.....				235 57
Paid on teachers' order.....		4203 50		
Balance on hand.....		3 67		
				<hr/>
		4207 17		4207 17

## CONTINGENT FUND.

By county treasurer.....	\$		\$	941 00
By Vernon Springs.....				73 00
By other sources.....				13 50
To amount over paid at 'date of last report.....		224 18		
To amount paid janitor.....		450 00		
To amount paid for the school grounds.....		350 00		
To amount paid for sidewalks and repairs .....		147 29		
To amount paid for school furni- ture.....		22 65		
To amount paid for wood and other expenses.....		331 74		
By amount overpaid.....				498 36
				<hr/>
		1525 86		1525 86

## ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES FOR THE COMING YEAR.

School house fund.....	\$	1200 00
Teachers fund.....		3000 00
Contingent fund.....		1500 00
		<hr/>
		\$5700 00

C. I. WHITE,  
Secretary.

L. E. SMITH,  
President.

The following is the course of study for the high school grade in the Cresco school. It is given as a specimen of the high class of education and culture given at this temple of knowledge.

## JUNIOR YEAR—FIRST TERM.

Latin or review of English grammar.

Arithmetic or Physiology.

## SECOND TERM.

Latin or Word analysis.

Elementary Algebra.

Physiology, one-half term.

Physical Geography, one-half term.

## THIRD TERM.

Latin or drawing.

Elementary Algebra.

Physical Geography.

## MIDDLE YEAR—FIRST TERM.

Latin or Chemistry.

Elementary Algebra.

Natural Philosophy.

## SECOND TERM.

Latin or Zoology.

Rhetoric and composition.

Natural Philosophy, one-half term.

Constitution of the United States, one-half term.

## THIRD TERM.

Latin or Geology.

Rhetoric and composition.

Geometry.

## SENIOR YEAR—FIRST TERM.

Latin or Astronomy.

English and American literature.

Geometry and higher Algebra.

## SECOND TERM.

Latin or Book-keeping.

General History.

Higher Algebra.

## THIRD TERM.

Latin or Political economy.

Botany.

General History.

Elocution and Composition throughout the course.

## RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

We are told as early as 1855, the Methodists held religious services at Vernon Springs, as is detailed elsewhere.

The first church edifice erected in the town of Cresco, was of this denomination, and was built during the year 1866. It is a neat frame structure, capable of seating about three hundred people, and is furnished in good style. The cost of the building, as originally constructed, was about \$3,000. For the first few years it appears that the services were held by the preachers on the circuit, but in 1870 the church was made a station, and a regular pastor was among the appointments, Rev. J. Riddington appears to be the first of these.

The date of his first efforts being 1870. He held the position but a short time, when he was succeeded by Rev. C. F. McLain, who was succeeded by Rev. W. H. Brocksome.

This gentleman was quite a favorite with his congregation and the community generally, and remained as pastor of the flock, until 1874, when he was displaced by Rev. J. Dolph, who occupied the pulpit until October, 1876, when Rev. J. L. Paine took his place. Rev. George Elliott was the next, and the date of his appointment, appears as being January 1, 1880. He held this until December 1. 1881, when the present pastor, G. W. Pratt succeeded him. There is a fine Sabbath school connected with the church, which has a fair regular attendance.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This church society was organized, July 20, 1867, under the name of Grace church.

The first rector was the Rev. J. Rambo, to whose untiring energy the church owes its existence. The church edifice was erected during the year 1868, and is a neat and handsome structure 24x34 feet in size, and is capable of seating some one hundred and fifty persons.

The funds for the building of the church, some \$2,200, was mostly contributed by friends of the same denomination in the east. The bell was a donation from the famous banker, Jay Cooke, of Philadelphia.

There is a fine, pleasant parsonage, connected with the church. Rev. C. S. Percival, is the present rector.

The Congregational church of Cresco, is an outgrowth of the



church at New Oregon, or more properly speaking is the same church removed to its new quarters. September 7, 1856, Rev. J. W. Windsor, organized the the church at New Oregon.

The infant organization numbered sixteen members at its inception, it grew and strengthened with years, and became the leading church.

Mr. Windsor remained pastor, until 1866, and then resigned and was succeeded by Rev. S. D. Peet, who, however, did not long stay, for we find, that during 1868, Mr. Windsor was recalled to the scene of his labors.

It was during his second pastorate, that the people seeing that the majority of their members were emmigrating to the neighboring town of Cresco, determined upon removing the church there.

Accordingly in 1868, the building was removed to that place, and enlarged by the addition of twelve feet to the front and a belfry erected thereon.

The reorganization of the society now became necessary and a meeting was called for that purpose, and the object came into effect, and the edifice dedicated October 25th, of the same year, Rev. Samuel P. Sloan, McGregor, delivering the dedicatory address.

In 1871, Rev. Mr. Windsor, again resigned his charge, much to the dissatisfaction of the congregation, who all loved and admired him; Rev. Mr. Southworth was then called to the pulpit. The latter gentleman presided over the destinies of the flock, until the 21st of January, 1876, when Rev. A. S. McConnell was called and assumed the position of spiritual guide to the congregation. His initial sermon was preached about the middle of February, and and was one of the finest efforts heard for some time. The church continues yet under his able ministration, and is in a flourishing condition.

This society is noted as having a very fine choir, which adds to the attraction of the church services, and delights the true lover of fine music.

The bell that hangs in the belfry, and calls the worshipper to services of the church was presented to the society by a friend in New London, Conn., and is noted as being the first bell ever hung in a church tower, within the limits of Howard county.

The first organization of the Roman Catholic church in the

county was at New Oregon, but as the society was not of long duration the records have entirely disappeared and hence the date is lost in the mists of the past.

In 1871, Rev. Father M. A. McCarty, succeeded in organizing the church anew.

The church edifice was erected in 1872, and is a neat specimen of church architecture. It is 24x48 feet in size and cost \$3,000 to build.

Farther McCarty still continues to minister to the spiritual wants of his flock, and is loved and revered by all, with whom he comes in contact.

The congregation is not very large, but the regularity with which the duties of the church are attended speak well for their devotion.

There is also a German Lutheran church organization, located here who have erected a fine edifice in the eastern part of the town. Of this society we have no notes.

The Baptist church of Cresco is of comparatively recent origin. In April, 1878, a society of this denomination was organized, of which Rev. E. W. Green seems to have been pastor.

They had no church building but appear to have worshipped in Prices hall, but with nothing like any regularity, it being of a spasmodic nature, running along nicely for a few months then suffering a suspension of a like time and again resuming services. This gave great dissatisfaction all around, and in 1881, it was determined to reorganize on a different basis. This was accordingly done and on the ordination, of Rev. A. H. Carman, he was called upon to act as the pastor. Under his able leadership, the little band has grown to quite respectable proportions and is in a flourishing condition.

In 1882 the church edifice was erected and dedicated as a house of worship November 5th, of that year. This structure although small in dimension, being but 28x42 feet, with a vestry 14-20, is one of the finest in the city. In architecture it's a simplification of the Elizabethan gothic order, and the effect produced is beautiful. S. H. Clark was the contractor and erected the structure for \$2,700.

Inside, the building, presents a fine appearance, with its stained glass windows, making "a dim mysterious light," that superin-

duces to religious thoughts. A good Sunday school is also attached to the church. and is well attended and conducted and is looked upon as the nursery of the future church.

#### I. O. O. F.

Cresco lodge, No. 269, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized during the spring of 1874, with ten charter members, viz: John G. Stradley, S. T. Irvine, G. M. Harris, C. S. Maxson, C. F. Webster, J. F. Webster, M. S. Powell, J. J. Saulsbury, N. Pullman, and D. W. Owen.

J. G. Stradley was the first N. G., and G. M. Harris, secretary.

The present officers are: Robert Blackman, N. G.; George Pratt, V. G., and J. Welsh, secretary.

The lodge is reported to be in a flourishing condition, numbering among it many members, some of the most substantial men of the county. The finances, as is usual in the order, are in excellent shape, and bright days seem to be in store for it.

#### MASONIC.

Cresco lodge, No. 150, A. F. and A. M., is an outgrowth of the New Oregon Lodge, which was moved to the town of Cresco, March, 1870.

The officers at that time were: M. M. Moon, W. M., and W. H. Patterson, secretary.

After its removal the membership increased rapidly, and we are informed that the efficiency of the work is remarkably creditable, and that the prosperous condition of the lodge is owing to the energy of the master. The present secretary is G. M. Harris, and the worshipful master, M. M. Moon.

Shiloh chapter, No. 64, R. A. M., was organized August, 1871, and has a healthy growth. M. M. Moon was the first H. P., and W. M. Fogo, secretary.

#### WORKMEN.

Howard lodge, No. —, A. O. U. W., was organized July 26, 1876, and officers elected, as follows:

S. A. Stone, P. M. W.; M. M. Moon, M. W.; C. I. White, G. F.; M. L. Luther, overseer; C. J. Webber, recorder; S. L. Smith, receiver; C. F. Webster, financier; H. S. Loomis, guide; E. E. Bertrand, I. W.; Jasper Bottsford, O. W.; B. F. Stone, M. M. Moon, and C. I. White, trustees.

The lodge has had an almost uninterrupted course of success, and is rated very high in standard. The present officers are:

Jerry Barker, P. M. W.; W. M. Wildman, M. W.; M. M. Moon, foreman; W. C. Brown, overseer; John Farnsworth, receiver; John E. Peck, recorder; Geo. H. Kellogg, financier, Frank Sayre, guide; G. B. Watts, I. W., and A. G. Genshaw, O. W.

#### THE LAND LEAGUE

was organized January 2, 1882, by the Celtic-American citizens, who almost to a man belong to it. The object is to have a more concerted action for the relief of their oppressed brethren, across the sea, and to countenance the legal efforts of Ireland's people to throw off the galling yoke of hated Albion. The officers are P. F. O'Malley, president; R. J. McHugh, vice-president; J. H. Foster, secretary, and P. Connolly, treasurer.

#### TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

There has been a Good Templar lodge, in Cresco, organized about the year 1874, which arose, flourished and met its demise along with many other such societies. It would seem that all the institutions for the improvements of the morals of a community, are but short-lived. Several attempts have been made to resuscitate it, but have been abortive.

Social Temple of Honor was organized November 25, 1881. The presiding Templars, Miss Violet E. Truman, and J. F. Webster, with Mrs. M. M. Moon, and Walter Doan, as recorders.

The Father Matthew Total Abstinence Society, a temperance organization under the auspices of the Roman Catholic church, was organized in the fall of 1874. It owes much of its success to the untiring efforts of Father McCarty, who is ex-officio, the leading spirit. Although having but a small beginning it has grown grandly, and now numbers eighty-five members. The officers are:

D. A. Lyons, president; Bernard Dougherty, vice-president; Daniel Barnes, secretary, and P. F. O'Malley, treasurer.

This organization has done more good than any other temperance body in the town, and deserves all the credit due it.

#### LEGION OF HONOR.

A lodge of this organization was instituted in Cresco, September 19, 1879, and is in a flourishing condition. The present officers are: President, Wm. Wilbraham; financial secretary, John E.

Peck; recording secretary, C. F. Webster; treasurer, Charles I. White.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

As early as the winter of 1857-8 the citizens of Howard county essayed to form an agricultural society, and during the summer of 1858 an organization was effected. In the fall of that year the fair was held under its auspices at Howard Center. It seems, however, that the country was not settled enough to support the society, and the whole matter was abandoned and the organization disbanded. In 1866 another effort was made in the same direction, and a company was formed under the same name—Howard County Agricultural Society—but it suffered the same fate as its predecessor, and soon was numbered with the things that were. Things remained thus, until in 1871, a new organization was made, and as the old saying has it, "three time is the charm," this was a success and a grand one at that, in fact it is said, that no similar society in the state is established on a better or more substantial basis than this. Its fairs and exhibitions have been a flattering success from the very beginning. The officers, in 1875, were: C. F. Webster, president; John E. Peck, vice-president; John Steinman, secretary; Jesse Barber, treasurer. The present officers are: T. P. Davis, president, and C. F. Webster, secretary.

The society owns some ten acres of ground, beautifully laid out, with good buildings, sheds, pens, etc., and a remarkably fine floral hall. Everything owned by the company is paid for, and with money in the treasury they can bid defiance to any adverse fortune.

#### THE OLD SETTLERS SOCIETY

was organized in 1869, with Darius Seeley as president, and H. D. Noble as secretary. The first annual gathering was held the same year, at Gillett's Grove, Judge M. V. Burdick delivering the address. In 1871 the second meeting was held at Lime Springs, there being none held in 1870, and was largely attended, W. Dobson being the principal speaker. The society have held annual meetings every year since, and is in a fine and healthy state, and the gatherings are largely attended by the pioneers, who there retail to each other the stories of "old times," and tell those marvelous hunting yarns they so much delight in.

## CRESCO DRIVING PARK ASSOCIATION

was at one time one of the most successful organizations of the kind in northern Iowa. It was organized in 1872, and on its inception purchased some eighty acres of land about a mile from the town of Cresco.

A mile track was laid out, which was said to be one of the best in the state, and the grounds were enclosed. After a few years, however, the interest declined, and but little is said about it at present. The Howard county agricultural society own ten acres in the center of the grounds, and to them is due the fact of the preservation of the grounds and fences.

## BANKS.

In the early days of Cresco, in 1868, Aaron Kimball and John Farnsworth established a banking house, under the firm name of Kimball and Farnsworth, with a capital large enough for the wants of the community at that time. A course of strict integrity and honorable dealing has built up the concern, until, to-day, it is noted for its soundness and financial ability. The bank occupies quite commodious quarters on Elm street.

In 1873 A. D. Wright established a banking house also, but it was short-lived and exists no longer.

October, 1877, witnessed the opening of the Howard county bank, then owned and operated by Kerby and McHugh, the latter being the resident manager. After a very successful run of business, in July, 1880, John McHugh purchased the interest of D. R. Kerby, his partner, and under his able management and talented financiering the bank has won a front rank in the moneyed institutions of the county. A large insurance business is also transacted in connection with the bank, and the neat and stylish office on Elm street seems the beau ideal of a banking room.

## ELEVATORS.

These are among the most noteworthy institutions of Cresco. One, that of Bassett, Huntting & Co., was built in 1872, at a cost of \$17,000, and is one of the finest steam elevators on the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and has a storage capacity of 50,000 bushels of grain. The other, equally fine and large, is operated by Gilchrist & Co.

## HOTELS.

It would seem that the first hotel in the town of Cresco, was the

old Mansfield house, afterwards known as the DeNoyelles house. This was destroyed by fire, and on its site arose the present Strother house. This is the largest of the hotels in Cresco, and the town can boast of quite a number, and is one of the finest in the northern part of the state. It is a large, three-story brick veneered edifice, trimmed with cream colored Milwaukee brick. It is large, roomy and commodious, and fitted up with all the modern improvements. The building was erected in 1876, by W. Strother, and was opened for business New Years night, 1877, under the management of Priest and Shaw, to whom it was leased. In April, 1877, however, Mr. Shaw withdrew from the partnership, going to Charles City, D. H. Priest still retaining the lease and operating the hotel, until December, 1879, when W. Strother, the owner, assumed the control, which he continues to the present time, meriting the encomiums of the traveling community, who so largely patronize the house. A mention of the house without speaking of the gentlemanly clerk, Sidney W. Hart, would be like the play of Hamlet with the prince left out.

The Webster house, on upper Elm street, is likewise an old landmark in the town's history, and in its early days was kept by J. F. Webster, from whom it derived its name. J. J. Mason is now and has been for some time the "jolly host," and the house enjoys a good share of business.

The Dilworth house was erected in 1876, by John Dilworth, its present owner, who has successfully conducted it since it was first built. Neat and commodious, and operated in first-class style it enjoys considerable popularity.

The Van Slyke house is also another of the fraternity of hotels, and holds its level with its compeers.

#### SHIPMENTS.

An indication of the importance of Cresco as a shipping point, will be found in the following statement:

Shipment of grain and produce from Cresco, via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, during the year 1882:

	Pounds.
Wheat.....	1,791,700
Barley.....	3,272,940
Oats.....	8,979,480

Corn.....	7,267,300
Potatoes .....	551,300
Grass seed.....	1,048,560
Flax seed.....	2,214,010
Flour.....	701,900
Mill feed.....	502,330
Dressed hogs .....	55,270
Hay.....	280,000
Eggs.....	20,140
Butter.....	775,570
Poultry .....	43,000
Horses.....	140,000
Horned cattle.....	665,500
Live hogs.....	3,860,000
Sheep .....	60,000





## CHAPTER IX.

---

FOREST CITY TOWNSHIP; LOCATION; EARLY SETTLEMENT; ORGANIZATION; FIRST SCHOOLS; POSTOFFICE, CHURCHES, AND MILLS; VILLAGE OF LIME SPRINGS, FIRST SETTLERS; MILL; TOWN OF LIME SPRINGS STATION, FIRST MERCHANTS, MECHANICS, ETC.; ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS; SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, SOCIETIES, ETC., ETC.

---

Forest City formerly was known as Foreston, and occupies town one hundred, range twelve, west, and is the second in the northern tier of townships. For the facts, in regard to this town, we are indebted to the Cresco Times. In the issue of that paper, July 6, 1876 it is stated, as follows:

"The first settlers that claimed the vacant lands and homes of the red men, were R. S. Buckminster, J. Knowlton, John Adam and R. E. Bassett, Ben and George Gardner, Oscar Chesebro, the three Mortimers and others, who all came in the year 1854.

"The precinct was organized from Vernon Springs in the fall of 1856; C. S. Thurber was elected justice of the peace, and Edward Bassett, town clerk. The whole number of votes cast at this election was forty.

"The first school in the township was taught by Miss Helen Van Leuvan, in the year 1856, and the second was opened by James Morris, in the winter of 1857-8.

"The first postoffice was established at Lime Springs in 1855, A. D. C. Knowlton, postmaster."

The first death in the township occurred in the winter of 1854-5, and was that of John Mortimer, who was the pioneer in the city of the dead.

"The year 1859 seems to have been a year prolific in the formation of church societies. The Baptist being the first to lead off, under the direction of Rev. C. E. Brown, of Vernon Springs, at Lime Springs. The Methodist following shortly in the wake by organizing two churches, one at Foreston village, and one at Lime Springs, both owing their existence to the energy of Rev. Waterbury, of New Oregon. The Presbyterian denomination not to be outdone, also started churches at each of the above places, in the same year, under the ministration of Rev. A. Craig. The religious revival of that year seemed to have permeated all people, and denominations vied with each other in the formation of societies, and erection of temples of worship.

"For natural beauty of scenery this precinct cannot be excelled. The rocky shores of the Upper Iowa, fringed with the umbrageous shade of primeval trees, the high, rolling prairies spreading like a petrified sea of emeralds, the cosy homes nestling in the beautiful groves that dot its surface, all go to make up a picture not often met with, and where it is the lover of nature stands entranced."

"Along the banks of the river were found the many camping grounds of the aborigines, and it is told that they were a matter of considerable curiosity to the early settlers, one J. Knowlton, in his seeking over their locality, picking up and preserving a knife lost by some Indian owner.

Fine water powers are within the limits of the township, which have been improved to some extent, 3 mills being erected, one at Foreston, one at Lime Springs (old town), and another about two miles west of the latter place. The precinct contains, besides the villages of Foreston and Lime Springs, the town of Lime Springs Station, the second town in the county in regard to population and business.

The old town of Lime Springs was first settled by Oscar Chese-

bro, and Joseph Knowlton, in the year 1854; here they erected their homes, and gathered around them quite a settlement. In the spring of 1857 the most of the land belonging to some land speculators, O. and W. O. Wood by name, they laid out a town plat.

The country settling up caused quite an influx of merchants and mechanics, and the site soon began to assume the appearance of a village, until two years later, in 1859, it contained two stores, one blacksmith shop, a wagon maker, tavern, school house, and some twelve or fourteen dwelling houses. The names of these early settlers are A. D. C. Knowlton, Joseph Knowlton, M. M. Marsh, C. C. Hewitt, W. O. Cheseboro, H. H. Wells, Oliver Cheseboro, and G. M. Van Leuvan, the latter gentlemen being engaged in the practice of law, and was the first lawyer in the township. The large grist mill was erected in 1859-60, by M. M. Marsh, and was, at the time, one of the best in that section.

This mill is a large three-story structure, partly built of stone and partly frame, and stands on a natural elevation on the banks of the Upper Iowa river, whose current is utilized to propel its machinery. Since its erection by Mr. Marsh it has passed through the hands of several parties, notably that of I. N. Drake, of Volga City. The Lime Springs milling company, consisting of H. W. Babcock and A. F. Baumgartner, who are the present owners and operators, and they intend to increase the facilities and extend the business by the addition of newer and more improved machinery.

The water power is first-class in every respect, and is a never failing source of motive power. Four run of stone is the present equipment of the mill, but the early spring will witness the introduction of the roller system for making fine flour, when the old grinding apparatus will be used to grind feed for cattle, hogs, and horses.

The same company own some fifteen acres of pasture land, on which are kept some fine stock.

The mill is situated about three-fourths of a mile from the station of Lime Springs, and cannot keep ahead of their orders by running both night and day. A large amount of grinding is done for the farmers of the surrounding country, besides the large merchant business controlled by it.

This is almost the only business now in existence at the old town, for when, in 1868, the railroad located the station where it now is, the business of the town naturally gravitated there, until it is almost deserted. Two churches still point their spires heavenward, one belonging to the Baptist, and the other to the Methodist denomination. The latter church seems, in these later times to have the general harmony of the society marred by internal dissensions. Those of the community who have removed to the station of Lime Springs, desiring to move thither the church edifice, are met by the action of those who remain in the "old town," whose interests are diametrically opposed thereto, and the matter has to be decided by some legal tribunal.

#### LIME SPRINGS STATION

is, next to Cresco, the most important one in the county, both as in regard to population and amount of business transacted. It is located on the southeast quarter of section twenty-nine, in the township of Forest City, on the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and about ten miles northwest from Cresco.

Laid out with fine broad streets, whose sides are fringed with stately trees and smiling cottages, or busy marts of trade and commerce, the town presents a charming appearance, and well deserves the encomiums lavished upon it by its citizens. The place has grown with a growth that in rapidity has scarcely a parallel. On the location of the depot of the railroad not even a single house was erected, but in the course of a few short months a flourishing town had sprung into existence, and what had been the pasture of the flocks and herds, echoed to the noise of artisan and mechanic, and the hurrying of tradesmens' feet.

In the spring of 1868 the town was born, as has been said, on the decision of the railroad company to place a depot at this point, and was known as Lime Springs Station, although the government called it Glen Roy postoffice to distinguish it from the older town, for many years.

Among the first merchants to settle, were: Peter Velie, jr. general merchandise; S. L. Carry, the same; John T. Cameron, produce; W. F. Daniels, groceries; J. E. Foster, furniture and undertaking; C. C. Hewitt, hardware; Joseph Knowlton, hardware and stoves; H. P. Marsh, lumber; M. M. and A. E. Marsh

drugs and medicines; Ohlquist Bros., boots and shoes, and Alonzo M. Pettit, groceries and confectioneries.

The first wagon-makers to locate and open up places of business were Henry D. Brown and William P. Reynolds, but which of these is the predecessor, is uncertain.

Lorin J. Johnson was the first to make and sell harness in the town, and the date of his settlement is identical with the birth of the village.

D. M. Fuller was the first architect and builder, and Drs. John W. Reed and Joseph N. Medbery the pioneer physicians.

Among the first places of business opened in the town Miller & Son's extensive livery stable and dray and 'bus line must not be forgotten.

The postoffice was established in March, 1868, and James Greenleaf commissioned as postmaster, but from some cause he held the office but about one month, when he resigned it, and Alonzo M. Pettit was appointed in his place, and still enjoys the emoluments of the office.

The Presbyterian church, a large frame structure with oval window frames, was erected in the year 1870, and is now under the able ministrations of Rev. P. S. Helms, who is loved and revered by all in the community, both in and out of his church. The interior of the building is well finished, with frescoed ceiling, and is well carpeted, possesses a fine organ and services are well attended. In the spire, which adorns the front of the building, hangs a silvery toned bell that calls the devoutly inclined to worship.

The Baptist denomination also possess a neat and tasty church edifice, wherein Elder C. E. Brown holds forth occasionally, and Elder Benedict, on the alternate Sundays, holds regular services, and administers the rites of the church when the occasion demands. This edifice was erected about the same time as the other church.

The school building is a fine large brick building, and contains three rooms, and stands in a large open play ground. The tutorship is vested in T. Dexter, principal, and Misses Libbie Smith and Hattie Johnson. There is also a fourth department, located at the old town under the supervision of Miss Ida Cheseboro.

The schools have an average attendance of fifty scholars, and present a remarkably high grade of study. The standard of the schools owes much to the efficiency and ability of Mr. Dexter, who has direct oversight of all the departments. His method of imparting instruction is novel, and is calculated to impress the knowledge desired upon the mind of the pupil to a surprising degree.

The incorporation of the town of Lime Springs Station, dates from May, 1876. At the first election held in that month, W. P. Daniels was elected mayor; Peter Velie, jr., recorder, and H. P. Marsh, Ole Tistleson, G. Somsen, C. E. Hamlin, and J. F. Thompson as members of the council.

Mr. Daniels did not see fit to qualify and assume the office, to which he was elected, and J. F. Thompson acted as mayor, pro tem., until May 29th, when a special election was held for the purpose of electing a mayor to fill the vacancy, and J. E. Foster was elected and immediately assumed the duties of the office.

At the first meeting of the council, held after he had assumed the chair, S. A. Miller was appointed marshal; Peter Velie, jr., treasurer, and H. C. Hewitt, collector.

At a meeting held May 30, 1876, it was resolved to build a jail or calaboose for the use of the city, on lot 11, block 1, and in accordance with the resolution work was begun, and the building erected in the succeeding month.

The city officers, at the present writing (March, 1883), are:

W. F. Daniels, mayor; Charles Gorst, recorder; L. J. Johnson, F. M. Clark, Ole Tistleson, W. H. Farrar, Joseph Knowlton, and Thomas Gates, councilmen. But at the election, held this month, however, W. F. Daniels was re-elected mayor, Charles Gorst, recorder, and A. S. Lambert, and J. F. Thompson, as councilmen in the place of Messrs. Knowlton and Gates, who retire to the shades of private life.

Lime Springs Station has a population, according to the census of 1880, of 468, and the old town, Lime Springs, 225.

The only manufacturing interest in the village is the Lime Springs Manufacturing Company's Works. Here are made all kinds of buggies, wagons, and agricultural implements, and is doing an extensive and remunerative business. A. A. Sage is the

head of the concern, and it is owing to his energy and perseverance that the company is on its present footing. The large brick structure on the eastern limits of the town is well filled with work in the process of being manufactured.

Among the societies established in the town, the

LIME SPRINGS LODGE, NO. 122, A. O. U. W.,

is the most popular, possessing a large membership. It was organized in the year 1876, and is in a very flourishing financial condition. Meetings are held the first and third Fridays of every month, and are well attended. The officers are:

J. D. Brown, M. W.; J. T. Smith, financier, and W. H. Farrar, recorder.

#### MASONIC.

Howard lodge, No. 214, is an old established organization, and possesses a fine lodge room. About forty brothers, in good standing, are reported as the present membership. G. M. Van Leuvan is the worshipful master, and A. D. Prescott the senior warden at present.



## CHAPTER X.

---

TOWNSHIP HISTORY; LOCATION AND EARLY SETTLEMENTS OF SARATOGA, PARIS, AFTON, JAMESTOWN, HOWARD CENTRE, ALBION, NEW OREGON; EARLY CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, MILLS, AND SETTLERS THEREIN.

---

### SARATOGA.

The history of this township is given by H. D. Noble, so fully, that we can do no better than quot it almost entire. He says:

"Saratoga township consists of congressional town 99, range 13, and belonged before its organization to Jamestown.

"The first settler that pitched his tent therein was Jared Sigler, who settled on Crane creek, in July, 1854. In the winter following, Chas. Salmon, claimed the southwest quarter of section twenty, and laid out the village plat of Saratoga. The town first organized in the summer of 1858, and the first election was held in October, of that year. Thomas J. Gibbons, was elected justice of the peace, and John R. Buckbee, town clerk. The whole number of votes cast at that election was but fourteen.

"In the summer of 1858, Rev. Coleman organized the first Congregational church.



"During that same year the first school was also opened and was taught by Miss Emma Seeley.

"This town is situated on one of the finest portions of Crane creek. Running as the stream does, through the whole length of the township, makes Saratoga as well watered as any section of country need be. The timber being confined to the banks of the creek.

"The prairie is low and grassy for the most part, still many fine, warm and dry farms are mingled with the beautiful grass lands in right proportion for successful farming, in all its departments."

#### PARIS TOWNSHIP.

Is located on township 98, range 12, and the north half of township 97, range 12, and contains 54 sections. The first settlers, of which there seems to be any record or remembrance, were Thomas Griffin and Patrick Richards, who located in the year 1855.

They were followed, in 1856, by J. I. Sturgis and others, in the early spring and for many years thereafter the place was known as "Sturgis Point." The town was organized from New Oregon, in 1858, and at the first election, P. Smith was elected justice of the peace, and P. Griffin, town clerk. Twenty-two votes were polled in all.

During the winter of 1857-8 a school was opened for the rising generation, and I. C. Chamberlain wielded the Birch and

"Full many a whisper, circling round,  
Conveyed the dismal tidings, when he frowned."

In 1857, a post office was established at Sturgis' Point, with J. I. Sturgis as presiding genius.

This township is beautifully divided between grove and prairie, and well watered, as, indeed is all the county, by never failing springs. Running diagonally through the southwest corner of the town is Crane creek, and abundant grass lands seem to point that the hand of Providence intended this land for grazing, for nowhere can finer beef be made than on the bottom lands and high prairies of this section.

#### AFTON TOWNSHIP.

Consists of town 98, range 14, and north half of town 97, range 14, and was settled by A. Pooler, in the fall of 1854, set off from Howard, to which it was heretofore attached, in 1858, and organ-

ized in 1858 as a seperate township. A. M. Cowan, and R. Wooten were elected justices of the peace. Forty-eight votes were polled at this election.

In 1858, the Methodists organized a church and under the ministration of Rev. W. Patterson made quite a mark in the history of those early days.

Tradition hath it, that, in the cold winter, of 1856, two men of this town W. Glass and Van Amburg, not being able to resist the benumbing effects of hypoborean winter were frozen to death.

#### HOWARD TOWNSHIP

was first settled by W. S. Pettitone, in August, 1854. It was first organized as a township with Afton, and then occupied congressional town 98, range 13, north half 97, range 13, town 98, range 14, and north half of town 97, range 14.

The date of this organization was 1856, but in the spring of 1858 it was divided into two precincts, the eastern one being called Howard, the western, Afton. Under the new organization, F. E. Dayton and W. S. Pettibone were elected justices of the peace, and Jas. Hall, town clerk. Eight votes were all that was polled at this election.

The post office village at Busti, is the only approach to a town in the township, and it was here that a settlement was started by a colony from Erie, Pa., but it never grew beyond a tidy collection of houses, and still languishes, and awaits the great future.

#### JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP.

While hunting through the musty records of the past for the history of this town, the following article, from the able pen of Mrs. E. V. Bennett, was found in the files of the Cresco Times, and as it covers all the ground, we have taken the liberty to quote freely from it, feeling that no efforts of ours could more fully cover the ground. In speaking, first of the topography, the article says:

"The main body of our woodlands is on sections 7, 8, 17, and 18, and constitutes what the earliest settlers at Wentworth, Mitchell county, named Round Grove, from its appearance at that distance. This timber consists of jack oak, burr oak, poplar and basswood, with a small portion of elm, maple and butternut.

"A brook zig-zags along the western line of sections 7 and 18, in the latter of which it unites with Spring creek (which in section 19 has another small tributary). Thus linking the springs and

narrow water courses of the northwest portion of the township, this stream crosses our west line in section 30, and a little further on is merged into the Wapsipinicon.

"That wealth of timber in Round Grove explains the fact that emmigration first centred there, and commenced at that point our historical outline.

"The brook called by settlers, the Little Wapsie, rises near the centre, and runs south about midway through the township. This slender stream has no timbered margin within our limits, yet it also attracted settlement, and was bordered with pre-emptions.

"Township 99, north, and range 14, west of the 5th principal meridian, was first sttled by whites in 1854. That year Messrs VanHoughton, Niles, Shaw and son broke a few acres of ground and started their log cabins in Round Grove. Before that date the surveyors foot alone had threaded its section lines; though the wild beasts of the wood and prairie had long before laid claim to these solitudes, and without filing their intentions had preempted the entire wilderness.

"The Teeple brothers came from Canada in the spring of 1855. and located on section 6, which the four brothers George, Edward, Stephen and Albert, pre-empted."

These settlers seem to have been immediately followed by Ed. Irish and Samuel Hallett, who, however did not stay long, but sold out to actual settlers.

Willis Spencer was the next, with his three sons-in-law, David Patterson, Thos. De Moss and Lucius Fassett, who all came in June of the same year, a colony of eighteen persons. In quick order followed Wm. and Denuis Rice, James E. Bennett and others. A party (who came with Bennett) erected a steam saw mill, which they had brought with them, and commenced operations in February, 1856 furnishing lumber for a number of pre-emption houses. This mill, however, was a losing investment, and it was finally sold at auction, and taken to the Upper Iowa. The first case tried in the Howard county court, Rice & Bradford vs. Cutting, grew out of this mill property.

The company who constituted the mill party, were Jas. A. Cutting D. P. Bradford, Jno. Moffitt, and Lyman Southard, who all locatad claims within the present boundaries of the town. These parties date their inçoming from the fall and winter of 1855, and before the new year had dawned Milo S. Torsey, Chas. D. Cutting,

Hazen Ricker and John Fiefield had joined this little squad of hardy pioneers. We must not forget to mention Asel Wilmot and Luther Titeum who are beleived to have located also this year. The year 1856 saw a large emmigration, most of those who settled being from New York, and the New England states. The most conspicuous names being Darius and Smith W. Seeley, the first named being afterwards county judge. It is said that in the spring 1858 the actual settlers on pre-empted land—pre-emptors as they were called—numbered sixty-three. Again we quote from Mrs. E. V. Bennett's article:

"A meeting was called January 1, 1856, to name the township, after some discussion it was named for the two persons who were then supposed to be the equal owners of the steam mill; (Bennett and Cutting).

"The first birth was that of Marcus DeMoss, April 12, 1856. The first death and burial was that of Mrs. D. Patterson, in June, 1857.

The first marriage was, is believed, that of Miss Martha Cassety to Ralph Watson, in December, 1858, Elder Griffin, a Baptist minister officiating. The first and only singing school was taught in the winter of 1867-8 by Dr. Stockwell."

The first election held in the township was during th presidential election of 56; but the following spring, April 7, an election was held for township and county officers, with the following result:

W. E. Thayer and D. Patterson, constables; H. Ricker, Asel Fasset and Smith W. Seeley, town trustees; and Willis Spencer and Darius Seeley, justices of the peace.

Among the first things mentioned, must not be forgotten the first school. This was opened and taught by Miss Jane Chandler, in a barn, on section 27, during the year 1857. This school was not at the public expense. The first public schools, were two, opened during the summer of 1858, one taught by Miss Mary St. John, the other by Miss Cassety. "The first school house" says Mrs. Bennett, "was built of logs, in Round Grove, in 1857."

In regard to early church matters the same article has some very interesting matter from which we glean. It seems that Seeley and St. John walking home from Rices, where they had been attending a Sabbath school, talked of the matter of establishing a Sun-

day school nearer home, circumstances favoring them a class was formed which developed into a Congregational society of thirteen members, organized by Rev. W. Coleman. Meetings were held alternately in the houses of Deacons Seeley and St. John, and afterwards continuously in the school house a number of souls of being added in the interim.

The Methodists, while many of the early settlers were of that faith formed no class until 1869, when Elder Mapes, organized a society of fifteen members. In 1874, the Methodists dedicated a church in Riceville, a commodious and attractive gothic structure.

The Baptist interest is quite an extensive one, and is embodied in a Riceville church beyond the boundaries of the county.

The hotel was opened in 1870 by James Hendricks on the north-west quarter of section thirty.

The first post office was established in 1856 at the steam mill, with D. P. Bradford to handle the letters. This post office after being moved to the house of Erastus Leache, where it was burned and never re-established, but removed to that part of Riceville that lies within the boundaries of Mitchell county.

#### HOWARD CENTRE TOWNSHIP.

In 1877, Laban Hassett, one of the older settlers and for many years county surveyor, wrote a history of this town, which was published in the Cresco Times from which we freely quote, by permission. The account recites, in the first place, that H. K. Averill, deputy U. S. surveyor, says in regard to the section in question.

"This township, lying as it does, at the head of one of the main branches of the Turkey river, is remarkably smooth and even. It is possessed with a preponderance of first-rate soil, and is tolerably well watered by creeks and marshes. There are but few springs in the township. No minerals are found, within its boundaries.

"Settlement was first made in the eastern part of the precinct, in 1855 by Royal O. Thayer, who arrived in April of that year."

Immediately following him we find the names of Alfred Eldridge and Willard E. Thayer, as pioneers of this section. In 1855, came also Ira Eldridge, who at once proceeded to erect a store, having brought with him a stock of goods. It was with great

difficulty that he obtained lumber for the purpose of building his store.

A small part of it he got from Harlows mill at New Oregon, and the balance he brought from the Mississippi river, except the studs and rafters which later were hewn out of poles cut in the grove.

The roof was made of lap shingles, split from oak timber. Early in September, he opened his stock of goods. He also preempted the northeast quarter of section 36.

Michael Creamer and Patrick Mullen were also among the pioneers of that year, and Mr. Hassett reports that in the following year, viz:

In 1856, that there were added to the population, of the township about forty pre-emptors; among whose names we find those of Wm. Conery, John F. Thayer, Wm. A. and Calvin F. Webster, Henry A. Cook, Laban Hassett, Lawence Long and others.

In the spring of 1856, John F. Thayer, commenced the erection of a hotel, where Howard Centre now stands, which was so far completed on July 4th, that it was used for a dinning room and dance hall, although the second story was not yet up.

"The 4th of July," says Mr. Hassett, "was celebrated in a grove south of the creek, where seats were very conveniently arranged for the attendants.

"The principal speakers were James G. Upton and M. V. Burdick. Mr. B. delivering the oration. Allusion was made to the fact, that the camp fires of the Indians had been but recently extinguished, and yet, about 200 persons were in attendance to celebrate the nations birthday. New Oregon and Vernon Springs. furnishing a large portion of the assemblage."

The town of Howard Centre (which now boasted of a hotel and store,) was laid out and platted, and put upon record. The acknowledgement of the plat bears date December 1, 1856, and is signed by Calvin F. Webster, Jno. F. Thayer, and wife, Thomas R. Perry and wife, W. E. Thayer and wife, and Royal O. Thayer and wife.

A hack was run to Decorah for the accomodation of individuals, and to bring supplies.

The fall of 1856, having been very dry, the infant settlement suffered much damage from prairie fires, and winter setting in with

the greatest intensity, and is remembered to this day by those who experienced it, as the coldest they ever knew, many of the poor settlers suffered much. Many of them had not time to finish their houses, and were poorly protected from the wintery blasts. Several persons were frozen to death in the awful "blizzard" of the 13th of December, among them Wm. Niles of this town.

Thayers hotel was burned on the 5th of February, 1857, when the air was so filled with snow flakes, that his neighbors half a mile distant did not see the flames.

Mr. Hassett relates that, "a school was in session in the hall, taught by W. B. Stone, and the fire caught from the stove pipe. Mr. Thayer was absent in the grove, after timber to build a barn, and when he reached home took in the situation; he commenced humming a tune in a manner peculiar to John F., and said: "Well I may as well draw this stick up there; I shall need a shanty to live in;" and accordingly left the timber by the burning coals. He had the hotel rebuilt, larger than before, and in readiness for occupation by the 4th of July next."

The first post office was established in March, 1857, and Henry A. Cook was the first postmaster. He soon resigned, and was succeeded by A. M. Pettitt.

"The order for the organization of Howard Centre township, issued to John F. Thayer, by Judge Upton and attested by E. Gillett, was dated March 13th, 1857." The first election was held at the house of J. F. Thayer, on the 6th of April, 1857, at which twenty-three votes were polled.

Frank S. Trew, was elected Justice of the peace; Ira Eldridge, Chas. H. Wood and Calvin F. Webster, township trustees; T. R. Perry, township clerk; R. O. Thayer and O. A. Bunker, constables. The judges of this election were C. H. Wood, J. Webster and Jno. F. Thayer; and the clerks, T. R. Perry and William A. Webster.

At the organization of the township school board, <sup>on</sup> May 7th, 1857. O. G. Talmage, was chosen president, Thos. R. Perry, secretary, and C. H. Wood, treasurer. The meeting was adjourned for four weeks to take into consideration the erection of a school house.

The first tax levied in the township was voted on the first day of June, 1857, for the purpose of building a school house.

During the spring of 1857, a Sunday school was established at Howard Centre, through the agency of the American Sunday school Union. L. Hassett was the Superintendent, with Mrs. T. R. Perry as assistant. Rev. John W. Windsor, preached at Howard Centre, once in two weeks during a large part of 1857-8, and Rev. C. E. Brown, in 1858-9.

Howard Centre was made the county seat of Howard county, by Judge Upton, and the records were removed there in October, 1857 and remained there, until the locating of the seat of county government on the hill, between New Oregon and Vernon Springs, in 1858.

The Northern Light, a six-column folio sheet, published by Geo. W. Haislet was started in the fall of 1858, and continued to be issued for about a year. From its advertisements, it may be learned, that R. O. Thayer kept a livery, and J. W. Walters solicited patronage as a carpenter and builder.

The first marriage ceremony solemnized in the township was by S. L. Hassett, justice of the peace, who on the 11th of May, 1859, united in wedlock, B. F. Benson and Melissa Halsted.

The first child born in the Tp. was C. F. Bunker, advent on October 1, 1856, added a prospective voter to the county. The first girl was Irene E. Eldridge, born on Sunday, May 17, 1857. The first death was that of Mr. Wm. Niles, frozen to death, December 13, 1856, as related before.

The Howard Centre cemetery was laid out in June, 1863, the first person interred therein being Mrs. Harriet, N. Talmage, who, in an unfortunate state of mind, had drowned herself in the Turkey river near her house. This happened on the night of Nov. 1, 1862.

#### ALBION TOWNSHIP.

This was known as Osborne township until 1860, when its name was changed to the present one of Albion. It occupies congressional township 100, range 11, west, bordering the Minnesota line. Along its northern boundary runs the clear rock bottomed and spring made waters of the Upper Iowa river. There is an abundance of timber along the banks of the river, and extending some distance back. Bass, elm, maple, and ash being the predominating species, but some pines are to be met with. As has been most beautifully said: "However, the crowning beauty of all this section, is the



handsome groves that are universally found on the highest points of land, and in this respect Albion township can bear the palm."

The streams are all of the purest quality—liquid diamonds, so to speak—owing their origin solely to the springs gushing from their homes in the limestone, and within the cool waters the trout and bass still linger lovingly. Some of the first pioneers in the civilization of Howard county settled within what is now the boundaries of this township. The first whose name we have is Daniel Crowell, who located therein as early as the spring of 1853. Almost at the same time Andrew Nelson located his claim on section 10, and erected the family cabin, and in 1854 he was followed by C. S. Thurber. But for this year the incomers were like angels' visits—few and far between—but in 1855 the great tide of immigration, which came to our state, caused quite a ripple thitherward, and the beautiful prairies and lovely valleys of Howard county began to be thickly dotted with smiling farms, and smoke arose from the many cabins that were sprinkled over the verdant bosom of mother earth.

Among those who in the spring of that year took up their abode among us, we find: Oliver Arnold, Thos. Osborn, H. D. Lapham, W. D. Darrow, but these are but a few of the many whose names are borne by the recollections of those who remain. In 1856 a still larger wave of immigration flowed this way, and every succeeding year until the bloody days of the civil war, when it slackened up for some time, only to begin again in these later days.

This township was part of the precinct of Vernon Springs, until 1857, when in the spring of this year it withdrew itself, and completed a separate organization. There was cast at this election some forty-eight votes, and Josiah Kelly was elected town clerk, with James Nichols and James Oakley, justices of the peace.

The first church organization in the township was Baptist in denomination, and was effected in the spring months of 1856, with Rev. T. H. Minier as pastor.

The Methodist church society was formed the same year, under the energy and faithful efforts of the Rev. Wm. Lease.

In the month of March the Church of Christ was organized, mainly owing to the efforts of Rev. Wm. Phillips; the society numbered at its start some twenty members.

One of the early settlers says: "The character of the early settlers of Osborne may be drawn from the fact of their thus early organizing religious societies."

The first school in the precinct seems to have been opened in the latter part of the year 1856, and was taught by Dr. Lewis Reynolds; the school was small; but the increase was rapid so that in 1859 the scholars in the township numbered some one hundred and forty.

At the same time there was over eighty legal voters in the same territory, and many who were not yet admitted to the privileges of franchise.

In 1855, at Arnoldsville, was established the first postoffice, but it was of short duration, when it was removed to Osborne; A. Allen being the postmaster.

The statement is made by H. D. Noble, that, "In 1858, Osborne like all other places had its theme of excitement. In that year the gold fever broke out; but happily very few 'found the color', except in the faces of bilious, cadaverous, tired and jaundiced diggers. Hence its short life and speedy cure. The only gold in this section of the country will be found not by digging to pipe-clay, or bedrock, but in the rich loam that lies on the surface—the golden grain that feeds the world."

It is said that the first death that occurred in this vicinity, was that of Robert Gilchrist, who froze to death during the winter of 1854-5.

"Quarries of limestone and sandstone, and on the Iowa river quarries of rock straight as the mason's hammer could dress them, and smoother, too, are found."

With the exception of the postoffice village at Florenceville, in the extreme northern portion of the township, there is no town nor village, no fine farm broken to make a poor straggling village, but the whole section is given over to a constant succession of smiling farms and grazing grounds, covered with emerald verdure.

#### NEW OREGON TOWNSHIP.

We are indebted for the following history of New Oregon township, to a paper written by H. D. Noble, one of the old settlers, and published in the Cresco Times, July 6, 1876.

"New Oregon was one of the first locations chosen by the pioneers, who first made Howard county their home. 'Oregon

Grove' was known far and near, and was a landmark to all western hunters and rovers in northern Iowa and southern Minnesota. The precincts of New Oregon consists of the north half of township ninety-seven and township ninety-eight range eleven.

The first settlement was made in 1851, by Hiram Johnson. In 1853, Wm. Cottrell, H. Shuttleworth, and Wm. Brown first made claims in and about Oregon Grove. S. M. Cole, George Schofield, J. F. Mitchell, and others soon followed, and in 1855 a sufficient population had gathered to effect a permanent organization. Paris was included in the precinct as then formed. Daniel Mills was elected the first justice of the peace, and Samuel Coyl township clerk.

"Uncle" George Schofield built the first house in what has since grown to be the village of New Oregon. In the same year C. M. Munson opened a store near by, which was followed by others until the business part of town, in 1859, consisted of six stores, one wagon shop, plow shop, one harness maker, a tin shop, two tailor shops, three shoe shops, two blacksmith shops, a steam saw-mill, etc.

This village is on both sides of the Turkey river, and in the north edge of Oregon Grove.

At the same time it did not lack for professional ability, for it had within its jurisdiction one doctor J. J. Clemmer, and three lawyers, C. E. Berry, F. H. Jewett, and W. R. Mead.

Here was taught the first school in the county. In 1854 it was opened for scholars, and Miss Harriet Cole was the presiding genius, and with smiling face lured the youth to flowery paths of knowledge. Daniel Mills taught the first village school, which was established during the winter of 1856-7.

The Congregational church was organized at the hamlet of New Oregon, in 1856, and Rev. J. W. Windsor was installed as pastor.

The church, at first, was weak and feeble, as all such societies are in a new country, and their services were held as circumstances permitted. The following lines were written about the church of early days, and breathe the very essence of true poetry. One of Howard county's gifted daughters is the author, but by her request we suppress the name, which modesty will not allow her to have given it to the world.

## THE OLD LOG CHURCH.

On olden walls, in memory's hall,  
With roses 'round it clinging:  
A picture rare, of antique air,  
The old log church is swinging.

Of timbers rough, and gnarled and tough,  
It stands in rustic beauty;  
A monument to good intent  
And loyal, Christian duty.

The forest trees, kissed by the breeze  
Of early autumn weather,  
Stand grimly by, and seem to sigh  
And bend their boughs together.

Down by the mill, and up the hill,  
And through the hazel thicket,  
And o'er the mead brown pathways lead  
Up to the rustic wicket.

And by these ways, on holy days,  
The village folks collected,  
And humbly heard the sacred word  
And worshipped unaffected.

Sweet fancy's art and poet's heart  
Can see the old time preacher  
And village sage now turn the page,  
As minister or teacher.

For in the church, with dreaded birch,  
On week days he presided,  
In awful mien, a tutor seen,  
'Twixt lore and licks divided.

But where it stood, in dappled wood,  
A village sprang to life;  
And jolly noise of barefoot boys  
Is lost in business strife.

With years now flown, the children grown,  
Are launched on life's mad billows;  
The pretty maid is matron staid,  
The master's 'neath the willows.

A Methodist Episcopal church was also formed during the year 1858, of which Rev. Waterbury was the initial pastor. The organization of a Roman Catholic church was attained in the course of the same year.

The natural location of the precinct of New Oregon is unsurpassed. Through its center, from northwest to southeast, runs the Turkey river, and emptying into this stream are spring streams that are found in all this section of Iowa. A fine body of timber, including all the varieties of our prolific west, borders the river, and furnishes to all the region round about timber for fuel, fences, and buildings.

The hard maple, elm white oak, and basswood form the bulk of this grove. Underlying this section is fine quarry limestone, fit for all purposes of building.

Through the southern part of the township (97), runs the Little Turkey river, fringed with groves and watering a beautiful prairie of moist stock-growing land."

After the building of the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and the consequent springing into being of the town of Cresco, the business of New Oregon experienced the same fate that thousands of other thriving villages that have dotted these broad lands of ours, sank into comparative oblivion, the grass growing on the streets and all business at a stand still. People still reside there, for it is in the paradise of the county, but the stillness that reigns there makes one feel sadly that the tired and weary struggler had laid down and rested from life's weary battle, and that it is no longer sought to buffet the waves of adverse fortune.

#### CHESTER AND OAKDALE TOWNSHIPS.

These were united in one township until October 11, 1859, under the name of Iowa River Precinct, when they were separated and placed as now. The history of the two is so commingled that it seems impossible at this day to separate them, and hence we leave them like two lovers in fond embrace. For the facts in regard to

them we acknowledge ourselves under obligations to L. E. Smith, of the Cresco Times, who has kindly placed at our disposal many papers in regard to the same.

Chester precinct occupies the congressional township 100, range 13, and Oakdale 100, range 14, and are the most western of the northern tier. The Iowa river meanders along through the northern sections, the pure, limpid stream shimmering in the sun, and adding beauty to the landscape already charmed with the emerald velvety verdure of the native grass, and the golden amber of the ripening grain, while groves of trees interspersed break up what might prove to monotonous a view, where earth and sky alone are seen.

Henry Brown, in May 1853, made the first settlement in the township now known as Oakdale, and for nearly a year he had the unbroken solitude to himself, for there were no settlers but him until 1854.

During the summer of that year Robt. Jerod, Josiah Laws, O. M. Thayer, and M. Gates laid the foundation for the settlement that now graces this vicinity. They were, shortly, followed by A. W. Kingsley, Norman Freeman, C. M. Sawyer, and others.

Settlers having gathered in a sufficient number to justify the measure, withdrew the precinct from Jamestown, to which it had originally been attached, and organized as a separate township, holding an election for that purpose in April, 1857. which resulted in the election of John Adams and W. Y. Wells for justices of the peace, and C. M. Sawyer, town clerk. At this election forty-nine votes were polled.

The first regular district school was taught by Salinda Burknap, in the fall of 1857, although there still lingers a trace of a tradition that in the previous winter a school was taught, but of this there seems to be no certainty, nor is the name of the teacher remembered.

Within the boundaries of the two townships there is but one village, viz: Chester; the land being occupied with fine farms, and capital grazing grounds. All along the northern part of the townships fine timber abounds, and pure water from the many springs that gush from the lap of the earth.

## CHESTER,

the only village, is still but a small place, being too near towns having a larger growth, and whose proximity overshadow it. It was laid out, in March, 1858, by A. Eaton, and in 1859 already contained six dwellings, a tavern, and a school house.

The first postoffice was also started here, being established in January, 1858, with A. Eaton as postmaster.

There was a Methodist Episcopal church organized in March, 1858, with seven members; Rev. Norton, of Spring Valley, Minn., supplying the pulpit and attending to the spiritual wants of the little flock.

♦ ♦ ♦



## CHAPTER XI.

REMINISCENCES, ANECDOTES, AND INCIDENTS OF FRONTIER LIFE,  
GIVEN BY EARLY SETTLERS.

## TAKING IT COOLLY.

The last night of 1855, a party of four men crossed the Mississippi, at Dubuque, and found a new years ball in progress, at the Key City house, (where numbers of people found a resting place, on their way to northern Iowa). At Dubuque they hired a teamster to take them to Howard county.

As they approached Burr Oak Springs, that first Sunday in January 1856, the cold and wind increased, while the falling snow so whitened the track before them, that it could only be distinguished by the withered grass which bordered it. They urged their driver to halt without avail, he was confident that he could make his way after dark without difficulty. A little further, on where the prairie fires had left no grass to mark the roadsides, they were as effectually lost a few rods from the track, as though they had been miles away. Seeking the road they went as far apart as their voices should be heard, but after repeated efforts failed to find it.

They then lost no time in making preparations to spend the night in such a manner as, if possible, to secure their lives. They cleared the covered wagon box of trunks and luggage, tacked down the cover securely, and without being able to stand upright, exercised, two at a time as if for wages. The teamster alone lay down, wrapping his feet in the contents of his carpet sack, and he alone was frost-bitten. By force of kicking they had to rouse



him from danger. Had they trusted to wraps, bedclothing and buffalo robes—with which they were well supplied—and lain down to sleep, they would have paid the penalty with their lives.

"The mercury must have stood forty degrees below zero" said Dr. Fellows, who related this story of himself, his two brothers and R. Kerr, they afterwards learned, that a number of persons perished from exposure the same night.

The two succeeding days were so cold, that but few people left their houses. All that these young men had that night, in the way of nourishment, was a few small cakes and a bottle of brandy, the latter supplied the stimulus, that helped preserve them.

The early settlers met and organized a "squatter government," agreeing among themselves, that certain persons should act as officers. The "justice of the peace" named, was a lad of about nineteen years of age, Samuel Coyl, by name. A party, charged with larceny, was brought before "Sam" one day for trial. His honor, listened, with all the gravity of a deacon, to the evidence, which fully proved, that the accused, had broken open a companion's trunk, and purloined, therefrom, the sum of forty dollars.

But "Sam" fully understood his want of jurisdiction, and proceeded to render the verdict, as follows: "Guilty—guilty as hell, and the court knows it from the evidence—but they can't prove it—Scoot—scoot, or judge Lynch will hold court here to-morrow."

The culprit disappeared forth with.

The county of Howard, was settled from every land, and every clime, but very few, if any experienced business men, came among the early settlers. As might be expected, therefore, many mistakes were made in the "forms and ceremonies," and occasionally in the records. One young officer—young in years and young in office—when he carried a record from, one to a succeeding page, instead of noting the number of the future page, made this note, at the bottom of the first page, "see page ahead a little."

"It is told, that Howard county, from its organization, never elected, on a party vote, a democratic officer, yet the party kept up its annual county conventions for twenty years. At one of these conventions, only two persons were present. They were both of the legal profession. One was a large and the other was a small

man, and the larger acted as president, and the other as secretary of the "assembly." They put drink in their stomachs and a full county ticket in the political field. The secretary, in finishing his report, said that "the attendance at the convention was large and respectable." The president protested and said: It is true, Mr. secretary, we seem to be many, but do you not notice that on the ayes and noes, that but two of us answer." The secretary replied: "Mr. president, if there is but two of us here, I insist that the report is correct, for are you not large and am not I respectable."

The following lines were written by a gentleman now residing in the county, and who was one of its earliest settlers; he has followed many trades and professions, and has been a leading farmer for the last quarter of a century. We insert it simply as a specimen of the culture that may be found in these climes, for it is, by long odds, the superior of the usual mediocre poetry—so called—that floats through the columns of the press of the day. It is said of the author, that although many of the poor, have been indebted to him for considerable amounts of money, yet he has never collected one cent by execution, or sale of property on mortgage. Such men are few and far between, but the fates have rewarded him and enabled him, through labor and business tact, to achieve a comfortable competence.

The anagram "Live on no evil" is probably the best in the English language. Spelled backward or forward it reads the same. Its sentiment expresses the essence of the ten commandments:

#### LIVE ON NO EVIL.

"Live on no evil," reads the same  
 As forth and back we trace the line;  
 It is the voice of God to man,  
 Proclaimed from Sinai's height divine,  
 "Live on no evil," church or state,  
 But God-like rule with love, not hate.

"Live on no evil," landlord bold,  
 But so divide the loaf and sheaf  
 That tenant's children filled with glee,  
 Shall bless the hand that gives relief.  
 "Live on no evil," church or state,  
 But God-like rule with love, not hate.

"Live on no evil," merchant grand,  
That shoddy cloth that brings you gain,  
In rags hangs from the wearer's back,  
The cold bites in and gives him pain.  
"Live on no evil," church or state,  
But God-like, rule with love, not hate.

"Live on no evil," railroad kings,  
Nor scorn our rights with haughty brow,  
Those pondrous engines on those roads,  
Must in the wake of mercy go.  
"Live on no evil," church or state,  
But God-Like, rule, with love, not hate.

"Live on no evil," money lords,  
Your fiercest grasp shall prove your woe,  
In life's last grasp with deep regrets,  
And hellish moans you'll cry out, oh!  
"Live on no evil," church or state,  
But God-like, rule with love, not hate.

"Live on no evil," man of soul,  
But right the wrong with all thy might.  
When conscience all our acts control,  
We all may speak from Sinai's height.  
"Live on no evil," church or state,  
But God-like, rule with love, not hate,

—[M. B. Doolittle.

One of the members of the board of supervisors of the county, wishing the board to do its full duty under the law, presented the following resolution, which was adopted and placed on the minutes, instructing the township assessors as to what was their duty:

"Resolved, That the assessors assess every thing that wears a yoke as an ox, and everything that gives milk a as cow."

## CHAPTER XII.

---

WAR RECORD; ACTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF HOWARD COUNTY; THIRD IOWA INFANTRY; NINTH IOWA INFANTRY; THIRTY-EIGHTH IOWA INFANTRY; THIRD IOWA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY; ROSTER OF VOLUNTEERS.

---

The people of the northern states may well be proud of the record they made in the dark and bloody days of the great civil war. When the war was pressed on the country, the people of this peaceful Northland were pursuing the even tenor of their way, doing whatsoever their hands found to do—making farms or cultivating those already made—erecting houses and homes, building shops and factories, and the whole country was alive with industry, and the future was rosy with promise. The county was just recovering itself from the financial panic of 1857, and the failure of the crops of 1858–9. The future looked bright and promising, and the industrious and patriotic sons and daughters of the free states were bouyant with hope, and looking forward to new plans for the ensurement of comfort and competence in their declining years, and they little heeded the muttering and threatenings of the wayward children of the slave states of the sunny south.

Like the true sons and decendents of sires, whose sturdy arm had withstood Britannia's mighty power in the infant days of our noble republic, they gave no heed to the whisperings of fear, or dreamed that one could be so base as to stand back when their country called them, but all flocked to the front to meet dire treason face to face, and smite it as it stood.

April 12, 1861, Major Robert Anderson, the commandant at Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor, South Carolina, was fired upon by the hot headed rebels then in arms.

Although the blackest treason, men looked upon it as the senseless bravado of the would-be agitator, as the empty vamping of a few senseless fools, whose sectional bias and hatred of free institution had enraged and intoxicated them.

When a day later the telegraph wires bore to a startled north the stirring news, that Major Anderson had been compelled to surrender, to what had been at first regarded as a drunken mob; then the people looked and saw behind the curtain the dark spirit of treason stalk forth throughout the land. The patriotism that was bred in them leaped up and burned a steady flame upon the altar of their country.

Thus startled, as it were, from their bright dreams of the future, from undertakings half completed, and realized that, that mob had behind it a dark purpose; a deep, dark, well organized plan to disrupt this great Union, destroy the government, and to erect upon the ruins the oligarchy of slavery, and a slave-holding aristocracy.

But it was "reckoning without their host," for immediately upon the receipt of the news of the surrender of Fort Sumpter, President Lincoln, who but a few short weeks before had taken the oath of office as chief executive of the nation's will, issued a proclamation, calling for 75,000 men, volunteers for three months. Scarcely had the ink dried upon the pen, scarcely had the wires stopped vibrating with the message, as it sped along through all the northern states, then the call was filled. Men were counted out by thousands and money poured with lavish hand into the lap of the nation. The people who loved their land and government, could not give enough. Patriotism vibrated and pulsed and thrilled through every heart. The merchant left his counter, the farmer his plow, the bench gave up the judge, and even the college and

school furnished their porportion of the nation's defenders. All lines of party were swept away, and but one thought seemed to animate each breast—save the Union.

Not with insolence was the insolent flinging of the gauntlet met, but with the calm, determined mien of heroes, whose patriotism and love of country overpowered every other consideration.

But seventy-five thousand men were not enough to subdue the rebellion—nor were ten times that number. The war went on and call followed call, until it seemed that all the able-bodied men were in the front, fighting the battles of their country. But to every call, men and money were freely offered, readily and freely given, and the people determined to crush out the foul treason and subdue the rebellion.

Such were the impulses, motives, and actions of the patriots of the "Northland," among whom Howard's sons bore a conspicuous part.

Tuesday, June 4, 1861, the board of supervisors, in session assembled, by resolution appointed a committee, consisting of Messrs. Cary Munson and St. John, to draft resolutions "in the present crisis of national affairs, and recommend some offers of assistance to the general government."

The committee appointed, at once presented the following resolutions, which were immediately adopted:

Whereas, The president of the United States has issued his several proclamations for troops, to sustain our federal government, and suppress the rebellion, therefore,

Resolved, That we, as the legal representatives of the county of Howard, state of Iowa, do hereby, as loyal citizens and representatives, pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honors in support of the Union, the constitution, and the laws.

Resolved, That the resources and credit of the county of Howard, both in men and money, be pledged to the last man and dollar to support the government in suppressing the present rebellion:

Resolved, That in case of reverses to our arms, making necessary an increase of our army, we will levy a tax on the taxable property of our county, sufficient to support a company of one hundred men, at least, in the field, by paying them five dollars extra over government price.

Resolved, That we fully endorse the course of the administra-

tion, and the action of our state legislature in regard to the present emergency."

At the September session of the board they passed another resolution, to pay ten dollars to each volunteer from the county for an outfit. Also to allow the wives and widowed mothers of the volunteers from Howard county, in service of the United States, four dollars per month, and one dollar for each child under twelve years of age. The clerk was ordered to audit their bills monthly, and when so passed the treasurer to cash them at once. The first who seems to have availed themselves of this allowance, was Mrs. Amelia Johnson, of New Oregon, she having two sons in the federal army.

At the August session of the board, 1862, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this board authorize the clerk to issue a county warrant for fifty dollars to each accepted volunteer, not the head of the family; and four dollars per month for each wife and widowed mother, and one dollar for each child of the same, under twelve years of age, of every accepted volunteer, on presentation of proper bills, provided, that all of said volunteers be applied on the quota of Howard county for the late call for 300,000 men for three years, or during the war.

December 7, 1863, is the date of the following resolution adopted by the honorable board:

Resolved, that this board hereby appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars to each accepted volunteer who shall enlist, from this county, between this and the fifth day of January next, provided, this resolution shall not extend to enlistments beyond filling our quota. Also the sum of four dollars per month to the wife, and one dollar per month to each child under twelve years of age, as an additional bounty to the family of any accepted volunteer, who enlists from the county within the term above specified, and that the clerk of this board be and is hereby authorized to issue warrants, to parties entitled thereto, on presentation of the proper certificates. And that we hereby levy an additional tax of fifteen mills on the dollar, for the purposes of the above bounty, and hereby instruct the clerk, to immediately, extend the same on the tax list of this year.

As late as June, 1866, the following appears upon the minutes of the board:

"Board passed a resolution to pay every enlisted man the sum of one hundred dollars, as bounty, who was either a regular or volunteer, and who had received no bounty from this or any other county or state, including all drafted men, who were credited to Howard county. Also to men who enlisted, and through no fault of their own, were credited to other places; and also to make up the sum, to one hundred dollars, to all who enlisted from the county, when the bounty given was a less sum than that amount."

#### THIRD IOWA INFANTRY.

As a number of the men from Howard county were enlisted in this, one of the most noted of the Iowa regiments, a short sketch will not be out of place.

The "Old Third," as it is lovingly called by its late members, was organized in Dubuque, by Colonel N. G. Williams, and mustered into the service of the government, May, 1861. The officers were: N. G. Williams, colonel; John Scott, lieut. colonel; Wm. M. Stone, major.

Its initial fight was at Blue Mills, Mo.; where it laid the foundation for its after reputation as one of the best in the service. It also took a foremost part at Shiloh, Tenn; Hatchie river, Matamoras, Vicksburg, and Jackson, Miss; Atlanta, and participated in the Atlanta campaign, and Sherman's march to Savannah.

The regiment was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 12, 1864.

#### NINTH IOWA INFANTRY.

Col. William Vandever, of Dubuque, received, in August, 1861, a commission to raise a regiment of Infantry in the state of Iowa, to be known as the ninth Iowa infantry.

Howard county, with the fires of patriotism burning brightly on her altars, contributed sixty-eight men for company I, and four for company H.

The regiment was mustered into the service of the United States, September 24, 1861, except companies H, I, and D, whose times of muster precede that date, being respectively, H Aug. 21, I September 18th, and D September 2d. On the 26th of September the



regiment left Dubuque, for St. Louis, on the steamer Canada, and arrived at that place on the 30th.

Here they remained for some time. After drilling, and inspection, for a considerable time, the regiment was pronounced fit for duty, and on the 25th of January, 1862, was moved by rail to Rolla, Missouri, and assigned to the army, then making preparation to take the field against the enemy, under Major-General Samuel R. Curtis.

The regiment was brigaded with the 25th Missouri infantry, third Illinois cavalry and third Iowa battery, and the brigade placed under the command of Col. Wm. Vandever, baring the ninth, under the command of Lieutenant Frank Herron. The movements, of this regiment has been given in the history of the third Iowa battery, with which it was brigaded and whose exploits are there related by an eye witness.

The exploits of this gallant regiment, at the battle of Pea Ridge, have covered it with unfading laurels. The loss it suffered alone would tell the tale, had we no better testimony, having, three officers, two non-commissioned officers, and twenty-eight privates killed; six officers, thirty-eight non-commissioned officers and one hundred and thirty-nine privates wounded, many of whom afterwards died, and two privates missing.

Besides this engagement, called by the federal forces, the battle of Pea Ridge and by the rebels the battle of the Elkhorn, the regiment took part in the fighting at Chickasaw bayou, Arkansas Post, siege of Vicksburg, Ringgold, Dallas, Lookout Mountain, and were participants in the world renowned Atlanta campaign, and the subsequent march to the sea.

The ninth finally laid down its arms and was mustered out at Louisville, July 18, 1865.

#### THIRTY-EIGHTH IOWA INFANTRY.

Company J., of this regiment, was almost entirely, composed of men from Howard county.

The regiment was mustered into the service of the United States, at Dubuque, November 4, 1862, with D. H. Hughes, of Decorah, as colonel. It took a part in the siege of Vicksburg, the Red river expedition under Banks, and December 12, 1864, was consolidated with the thirty-fourth infantry. Was mustered out at Houston, Texas, August 15, 1865. For full details of the move-

ments of the regiment see page 307, history of Chickasaw county.

#### THIRD IOWA BATTERY OF LIGHT ARTILLERY.

As quite a number of the "boys" from Howard county were in the third Iowa battery it has been deemed of interest to give here a sketch of the same. We are indebted to the official report for the facts and quote freely from it.

"This battery was organized by Captain M. M. Hayden, under special authority from the secretary of war, during the months of August and September, 1861, at Dubuque, under the name of the the Dubuque Battery, and was attached to the 9th regiment Iowa volunteer infantry, Col. William Vandever, commanding. On the 3d of September, 1861, the first detachment was mustered in by Captain Washington, William H. McCluve, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, being mustered as first lieutenant, under whose charge the detachment was placed in Camp Union, near Dubuque.

"The battery was speedily filled up be recruits, and on the 24th of the same month, the final muster in as a battery took place; the following being the list of officers:

"Captain M. M. Hayden; senior first lieutenant, W. H. McCluve; junior first lieutenant, M. C. Wright; senior second lieutenant, W. H. Crozier; and junior 2d lieutenant, Jerome Bradley. September 26th, the battery in company with the ninth Iowa infantry, left for St. Louis, on the steamer, Canada, arriving on the 30th of September.

"The drill was here commenced, and clothing, etc., served out, the necessary requisitions being made out for horses, guns, harness, etc., were forwarded but owing to small supply and immense demand they had some time to wait for them.

"November 13th, the men were sent to Pacific City, Missouri, thirty-five miles west of St. Louis, to guard the railroad, although it would have puzzled any one to tell how, as they had no arms of any kind. Here they remained during the greater part of the winter. The guns and equipments were received by them December 1st.

"The battery consisted of four six-pounder bronze guns, and two twelve-pounder howitzers. After much drilling and inspections and reviews, in connection with the 9th regiment, they were pronounced as fit for duty, and that with the reputation of being first class in every particular.

"On the 25th of January, they moved by rail to Rolla, and assigned to the army, then about to take the field, under General Curtis, and which intended to move on Springfield, Mo., then the headquarters of the rebel forces in that state, The battery set out for the rendezvous of Curtis' army, at Lebanon on the the twenty-eighth of January, sixty-five miles, over one of the worst roads ever seen.

"The continual rain and cold made this one of the most trying marches raw troops could be called on to perform; but in spite of all, after six day's of hard labor, the battery reached Lebanon. Here they were brigaded with the ninth Iowa infantry, twenty-fifth Missouri infantry, and third Illinois cavalry, Col Wm. Vandever commanding."

The following is related in his report, by Capt. M. C. Wright, who commanded the battery in 1864. As it is the testimony of an eye witness we insert it in full as it covers the entire ground.

General Curtis commenced his forward movement on the 9th of February, and on the 13th, took peaceable possession of Springfield, the enemy having evacuated their position on the night of the 12th.

"The famous race after Price commenced early in the morning of the 14th, and then the first live soldiering commenced. The weather was exceedingly cold for the season, but no allowance was made for this. On they pushed, making over twenty-five miles the first day out of Springfield. Every effort was made to force the enemy to halt, and fight, but to no purpose. He seemed only intent upon escape. In his flight everything which could retard his progress was thrown away. Old wagons, lame horses and mules, were by far too numerous along the road for anything short of a race for life.

"At Flat creek, distant about fifty miles south of Springfield, the battery was so fortunate as to get near enough to his rear guard, to give him a few shells. This was their first gun at the enemy, and the conduct of the battery was witnessed by Gens. Curtis, Sigel, and others, who only complained that our boys drove them off too quickly. This occurred on the the 15th. The pursuit was still continued, and without eliciting anything of interest beyond the evident intention of the enemy to escape, if possible, until our forces had crossed the Missouri State line, and reached Sugar creek, where Price, strengthened by the arrival of 3000 Texas and

Louisiana troops, under Ben McCullough, who had been sent northward to meet him, as well as emboldened by a very advantageous position, made a stand. The advance of cavalry coming upon the enemy, and thinking that he was in small force, probably only stragglers from his rear guard, charged him but were forced to turn and fall back with considerable loss.

"Vandever's brigade was ordered forward at "double-quick," and our battery was pushed up beyond the furthest point reached by the cavalry, where our boys were greeted by a terrible fire from a battery concealed in the front, and under this fire the third went into battery and replied in the direction of the enemy, and such was the coolness of the gunners and the deliberation with which they delivered their fire, that in less than thirty minutes, not only was their loud-mouthed opponent, against whom the principal fire was directed, forced to limber up, and gallop off the field, but also the cavalry and infantry, which had deployed on the right and front, was taken with a sudden disgust of shot and shell, and betook themselves beyond reach before our own infantry were able to get within musket range. This lively little brush cost the battery two horses killed, and one caisson disabled by the enemy's fire.

"The affair was witnessed by Gens. Curtis and Sigel, and many other officers who were on the ground, and the battery received most unqualified approbation for the energetic, and skillful management of its guns. Being too much exhausted to push on, they remained on the field that night, and until the second morning, when, having gained some intelligenc of the enemy's whereabouts, Gen. Curtis moved off to the right of the former course, in the direction of Bentonville, intending to flank the position of Price at Cross Hollow.

"The movement was a complete success. Our army flanked the position, but the enemy were, in the meantime, in full retreat, evidently, determined to place Boston mountain between themselves and harm.

"It being impossible to move farther southward, owing to the exhausted state of the troops and horses, they went into camp at Cross Hollows, where they remained until the rebel army, re-enforced by 10,000 men under Van Dorn, marching northward to attack them compelled Gen. Curtis to fall back to the the strong

position at Sugar creek, or rather to the ridge beyond, known as Pea Ridge.

This General Curtis did upon the 5th and 6th, of March, fortunately without the loss which the enemy contemplated inflicting upon him, viz:

"Whipping the army in detail; the army was camped at Cross Hollows. Carr's (4th) division, nowever, alone, were at this point, but Cutis' headquarters were here. Sigel's (1st) Asboth's (2d) and Davis' (3d) were at, and near Bentonville, the army having been separated on account of forage.

"On the 4th of March, a portion of Vandever's brigade, consisting of detachments of the 9th Iowa, and 24th Mo., infantry, and 3d Ill. cavalry, wrth one section of the battery under command of Lieut. Wright, the whole commanded by Col. Vandever, started, on a reconnoissance in the direction of Huntsville, Ark., distant forty-five miles. This place was reached, and the object of the expedition having been accomplished, it was about to start back for Cross Hollows, when the arrival of a messenger from Gen. Curtis, showed the folly of such an attempt, as it would only result in its falling into the hands of the enemy, Then commenced one of the hardest marches, that was made during the war. The troops were forced to march through one of the roughest countries in the Union, ford White river, and make forty-seven miles in one day. The ford over which they crossed was within seven miles of Cross Hollows, and while our little force was crossing here, the entire rebel army, under Van Dörn and Price, was at the former place, though, happily for our boys ignorant of their whereabouts.

So well did Col. Vandever mange the march, that no one was allowed to escape, and thus give information to the enemy, of the proximity. At length, after this most exhausting march the detachment reached the camp of our forces at Pea Ridge about 9 p. m., greatly to the joy and surprise of almost every one, who had given it up for lost. The exhaustion of that march was so terrible, that scarcely one who escaped the destruction of the next two days' battle but could be found in the hospital; and many of them, the victims of that day's march, are now in their graves.

"Early on the morning of the 7th, skirmishing havin; commenced on the extreme right of our line, Vandever's brigade was hurried to the front, and instantly became engaged. Two sections

of the battery went into action under a terrific fire of both infantry and artillery, which were posted in the front, about 300 yards distant from Elkhorn tavern. The first Iowa battery, which the third relieved, had already been terribly cut to pieces, and was forced to leave the field. Before the battery had been in position ten minutes, it had one gun disabled by the enemy's artillery, one limber blown up, and several men wounded and horses killed. So destructive was the fire that Col. Carr, commanding the division, who was on the ground, ordered the two sections to fall back, which was immediately done. The entire battery again took up position to the right of Elkhorn tavern, where it remained until the entire division was forced to fall back in the evening. During the day the enemy repeatedly charged the position, but were invariably driven back in confusion. In one of these charges they managed to secure one of the guns of the battery, which was being placed in an elevated position, some distance to the left of the battery, but was almost entirely unsupported. The division, which entered the fight in the morning with less than 2,200 fighting men, held their ground for over six hours against nearly five times their number, and not until over one-third of the entire division had been killed and wounded, did the enemy, afterwards known to be over 12,000 strong, succeed in forcing the gallant Carr to retire.

"The suddenness of their final attack, with the meagerness of the support, compelled the battery to leave two of their guns upon the field. These guns, however, were not abandoned, until they were spiked, and every horse had been killed, and every man serving with them, either killed or wounded. They fell back some 400 yards, where, support coming to their aid, they kept up fire with the remaining guns, until darkness put an end to the engagement.

"They remained on the field during the night, and participated in the engagement of the 8th, which terminated in the rout of the enemy, and his flight from the field.

"The entire loss of the battery in the two days was, two men killed, two officers and fifteen men wounded, twenty-three horses killed, and three guns captured. They fired, during the engagement, over 1,200 rounds of ammunition. The battery acquitted itself nobly in this, one of the most sanguinary conflicts of the

war, and received most complimentary notices in the official reports of Cols. Vandever and Carr, also of Brig. Gen. Asboth. Three days after the battle, the army was moved southward again, but after one day's march, took the back track, and moved northward to Keithsville, where it remained until April 5th, when the army commenced the march to Batesville, Independence county, Ark., which point was reached without encountering anything of interest, about the 10th of May. From thence they moved south to Searcy, on Little Red river, and afterward returned to Batesville, about the 20th of June.

"From Batesville, Gen. Curtis commenced his celebrated march to Helena, Ark., where he arrived on the 12th of July, having encountered most terrible hardships on account of the excessive heat, and great scarcity of provisions. Remained at Helena until Gen. Steele's expedition against Little Rock was organized, in August, 1863.

"During their stay at Helena, the battery was a portion of the force in several expeditions, most prominent among which were Hovey's Mississippi expedition, November 1862; Gorman's White River expedition, January, 1863; and the Yazoo Pass expedition, March, 1863. In the latter expedition the battery took an active part in the bombardment of Fort Pemberton, at the junction of the Tallahachie and Yallahusha rivers. Returned to Helena, April 8, 1863; remained in camp there until August 11th. The battery took part in the defense of this place against the attack of the rebels under Price, Holmes, and others, on the 4th of July, 1863. Fired over one thousand rounds at the enemy, but escaped without any loss of men, owing to the excellent protection of our fortifications. Had eight horses killed.

"During the fall of 1862, the battery was the recipient of a splendid stand of colors, consisting of a banner and guidon—a present from the ladies of Milwaukee, Wis. They were made of the finest material, and bore upon their folds the names of the different engagements in which the battery had participated. The banner bore on one side the coat of arms of Wisconsin, and on the other that of Iowa. They were accompanied by the most touching address from the donors, referring in most glorious terms to the conduct of the battery in every duty it had been called upon to perform, closing with a stirring appeal to the members of the

battery to protect well the trust thus placed in their hands, and never to give up the struggle until these glorious colors should be honored throughout the length and breadth of the land. Coming from the ladies of a distant state, the battery was justly proud of these colors.

"Forming a portion of Gen. Steele's forces in the Little Rock expedition, it took part in the capture of that place, without any loss. Also took part in the expedition of Gen. Rice against Arkadelphia, in October, 1863.

"In December, 1863, and January, 1864, the battery re-enlisted as veterans, under authority of the War Department, and in February the veterans of the organization, with the officers, were sent north on furlough, from which they returned in May. After that time the battery received new guns and a complete outfit, as well as a large number of recruits.

"At the expiration of the original term of service of the battery, September 26, 1864, the non-veterans were sent north, where they, with Capt. M. M. Hayden, were mustered out, October 3, 1864. -

The following is a list of killed and wounded at the battle of Pea Ridge, Ark., March 7th and 8th, 1862:

Killed—Privates Dudley Gilbert and Freedom Jackson.

Wounded—Sen. 1st Lieut. Wm. H. McClure; Jr. 1st. Lieut. Melvil C. Wright; Corpl. David H. Rowles; Privates Adolph Borget, Charles N. Collins, Wm. Field, Richard J. Long, Ephraim Odell, Francis M. Thompson, Jacob Yost (died of wounds), Thos. Bunton, Theodore Connerardy, George W. Dearth, John F. Kelly, Joseph R. Maddock, Calvin J. Smith.

#### LIST OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN THE THIRD IOWA BATTERY SINCE ORGANIZATION.

Mortimer M. Hayden, captain, mustered out October 3, 1864.

Melville C. Wright, captain, promoted from first lieutenant, October 30, 1864.

Wm. H. McClure, first lieutenant, resigned September 4, 1862.

Jerome Bradley, first lieutenant, promoted A. Q. M., May 1, 1862.

Otis G. Day, first lieutenant, mustered out April 30, 1863.

Orlo H. Lyon, first lieutenant, promoted from second lieutenant, April 28, 1864.



Joseph J. Dengl, first lieutenant, promoted from second lieutenant, October 30, 1864.

Wm. M. Crozier, second lieutenant, cashiered by sentence general court martial.

Daniel U. Lee, second lieutenant, resigned October 11, 1862.

Leroy S. House, second lieutenant, resigned November 14, 1864.

Hiland H. Weaver, second lieutenant, promoted from first sergeant, October 30, 1864.

The third Iowa battery of light artillery, after holding part in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Lookout Mountain, Siege of Vicksburg, Dallas, and the famous Atlanta campaign, and marching with Sherman to the sea, was mustered out of the service at Davenport, July 14, 1865.

#### ROSTER OF VOLUNTEERS.

It is almost impossible to give the entire list of the sons of Howard county, in the service of the general government during the civil war, as all were not credited to the county. But by a careful investigation of the report of the adjutant general of the state, supplemented by personal inquiry, it is hoped that the list given is as accurate as the circumstances will admit.

#### THIRD IOWA INFANTRY—CO. D.

Charles P. Brown,	Joseph S. Neff,
George H. Culver,	Henry H. Sheldon,
R. E. Carpenter,	Daniel Wise.

#### CO. I.

George Merchant,	Isiah Wood,
John O'Donnell.	

#### SEVENTH IOWA INFANTRY—CO. B.

W. E. Thayer,	Joseph M. Gallahan,
David Seeley.	

#### NINTH IOWA INFANTRY—CO. H.

Jasper N. Moulton,	A. J. Cook,
Stephen Teeples,	Alfred Knowlton.

#### CO. I.

Samuel Fellows, 1st lieut.	Charles Kemery, 2d lieut.
C. B. Ashley,	David Garver,
John Logue,	Levi Yantz,
Myrtello Barber,	Isaac Bryan,
W. C. Bryan,	S. A. Converse,

Joseph Capler,  
 James M. Johnson,  
 John Oren,  
 J. F. Powell,  
 Chas. W. Polley,  
 Lauriston Averill,  
 Sherman Barnes,  
 George S. Briggs,  
 Joseph H. Fenton,  
 Daniel C. Harding,  
 Chas. D. Lockwood,  
 Daniel A. McMartin,  
 Harvey S. Ayres,  
 Hiram Birch,  
 John P. Freeborn,  
 Simon Hughes,  
 Robert Hurley,  
 Osborn Lutes,  
 William McCrea,  
 Charles L. Wilder,  
 J. D. O'Donnell,  
 Horace B. Rome,  
 D. M. Townsend,  
 Joseph Yantz,  
 Andrew Miller,  
 W. M. Colby,  
 Daniel B. Burke,  
 D. P. Griffin,

D. C. Horning,  
 Martin Kile,  
 Finley D. Pierce,  
 William L. Ransom,  
 T. J. Papin,  
 Amos S. Halstead,  
 Clark Johnson,  
 Benj. F. Knight,  
 John F. Knight,  
 Thos. J. Bridges,  
 Edwin Chapell,  
 Ezra M. Cole,  
 Francis A. Daniels,  
 John Goodenough,  
 Lewellyn Hurley,  
 Martin B. Jones,  
 John Long,  
 A. Strogher,  
 Lorenzo Wentworth,  
 Adam Vance,  
 Salisbury Sherman,  
 Hiram M. Townsend,  
 M. M. Wells,  
 Geo. A. Owen,  
 N. R. Johnston,  
 Walter Scofield,  
 Thos. J. Powell,  
 Walter Mintay.

## TWELFTH IOWA INFANTRY—CO. G.

V. R. Dunn, Fred. Rachan,  
 Edward Rachan.

## THIRTEENTH IOWA INFANTRY

John R. Curry, Isaac Cottrell,  
 Terence McGrary, Francis Craig.

## TWENTY-FIRST IOWA INFANTRY—CO. A.

John Becker.

## CO. I. THIRTY-EIGHT IOWA INFANTRY.

W. H. Powell, 1st Lieut., W. H. Patterson, 2d Lieut.,  
 B. D. Everingham, Lewis L. Light,

Jonas F. Adams,  
 Alva J. Stearns,  
 Madison Taft,  
 Samuel L. Thomson,  
 O. A. Bunker,  
 O. D. Curtis,  
 Otis A. Adams,  
 Wm. H. Buckland,  
 Ard. Bryan,  
 Charles E. Booth,  
 Charles Craghill,  
 G. W. Dawes,  
 Geo. Duffy,  
 John Feather,  
 Isaac W. Poe,  
 Chas. W. Sawyer,  
 Wm. Winters,  
 C. F. Mitchell,  
 E. B. Sloan,  
 S. Hazledine,  
 M. C. Abrams,  
 D. C. Ashley,  
 Jos. W. Brown,  
 Jason Bennett,  
 Jno. P. Bossard,  
 L. D. Bayes,  
 F. L. Dauberschmit,  
 James Forester,  
 Adam Fussell,  
 A. J. Garnsey,  
 R. B. Henderson,  
 John Holverson,

Robt. Logue,  
 Walter Mintey,  
 S. Nichols,  
 S. G. Oldham,  
 F. H. Ransom,  
 Philip Serfors,  
 Benj. Strawn,  
 Jas. Shaw,  
 Andrew Witt, Jr.,  
 Peter Phillips,  
 Jay H. Phillips,  
 F. Richards.  
 Ole Talif,  
 Geo. W. Weller,  
 L. D. Huckins,  
 J. B. Kingsley,  
 C. M. Pepin,  
 A. S. Pepin,  
 Alex. J. Powell,  
 Sylvanus Pekin,  
 W. P. Rinia,  
 J. W. Maynard,  
 E. B. Millington,  
 Wm. Niles,  
 H. C. Obert,  
 James M. Phillips,  
 Edwin Phillips,  
 John B. Parrington,  
 J. F. Sheldon,  
 Ezra Witt,  
 Enos. Wood.  
 Jas. Heldridge,

#### FORTY-SIXTH IOWA INFANTRY—CO. F.

Ed. M. Ashley,  
 Henry Pierce,

George Daggett,  
 S. E. Trask.

#### SIXTH IOWA CAVALRY—CO. F.

Elijah Murry,  
 W. F. Lyman,

William C. Storr,  
 E. Miner,

Joseph Richards,  
Peter Smith.

B. W. Sawyer,

CO. K.

John M. Sawyer.

CO M.

H. M. Harlow,

C. J. Nichols.

THIRD IOWA BATTERY.

Geo. L. Brown,  
Edmund D. Howe,  
George W. Combs,  
James Q. Jones,  
Michael Kelley.

William Radford,  
George H. Niles,  
Truman H. Smith,  
Theod. B. Sheldon,



### CHAPTER XIII.

---

CHRONOLOGY OF THE COUNTY, BEING AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS, OCCURRING IN THE COUNTY, FROM THE EARLIEST TIME TO THE PRESENT MOMENT, ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY.

---

1851.

During the month of December, Hiram Johnson erected his humble cabin, and dwelt therein, the first white man to locate within the bounds of what now constitutes the county of Howard.

1853.

This is the first year that any immigration came into Howard county. It is told, that during the twelve months, Henry Brown located in Oakdale township, Daniel Crowell and Andrew Nelson in Albion, William Cottrell, Thomas Lewis, William Brown and H. Shuttleworth in New Oregon, and Owen Sprague, William Harlow and others at Vernon Springs.

1854.

During the year S. M. Cole, James G. Upton, George Schofield and others came to Vernon Springs. "Uncle" George Schofield building the first house, in what was afterwards the village of New Oregon.

A. D. C. Knowlton, Joseph Knowlton, Oscar Chesebro, located the first claims in Forest City township.

Jared Sigler and others in Saratoga, making the first settlements in that township.

This same year it is also recorded, that C. S. Thurber and others were the pioneers in the settlement in Albion township.

The first settlement of Afton township, was made this year, by A. Pooler. Joseph Hall and others.

A. Kingsley and others settled in the township of Chester.

The first saw mill in the county, was erected this year, near Vernon Springs, on the Turkey river, by Oren Sprague.

1854.

Saw mill at New Oregon erected by William Harlow, in the early part of the year.

The first grist mill built in the county, erected at Foreston

First store, within the limits of the county, opened by Henry Milder, at Vernon Springs, and known as the "Blue Store" to all the settlers round about.

First school in the county, opened during the year by Miss Harriet Cole, at Vernon Springs.

The first post office, established in the county was at "Oregon Grove," and of which Hiram Johnson was appointed postmaster, but before his commission had arrived, he had removed from the county, and S. M. Cole was appointed in his place.

This year, Lucy Thurber, the first white child was born, in the county, and in October of this same year Jacob Harlow, the first boy in the county, was born.

It is recorded that the first death to occur in Forest City township, was during this year, and was that of John Mortimer.

Howard township first settled by W. S. Pettibone and others.

The first settlement in Jamestown township made by Messrs Van Houghton, Niles and Shaw.

During the winter of this year Robert Gilchrist, of Albion township was frozen to death, while attempting to cross the prairie.

1855.

The settlements during the year are Thomas Griffin and Patrick Richards in Paris township; R. O. Thayer W. E. Thayer and others, in Howard Centre; C. D. Cutting, William and Dennis Rice, in Jamestown township.

The second grist mill erected in the county, at Vernon Springs, on the Turkey river.

S. M. Cole erects and establishes the first hotel in the county, it being near the town of Vernon Springs; this hotel was for some years the principal stopping place for M. O. Walker's stages and for all travelers and emigrants passing west.

The county organized this year, in accordance with an order issued from the court of Judge Lyons, of Chickasaw county, and first election held, resulting in the election of James G. Upton as county judge, Edmund Gillett, county clerk; William Woodward, recorder and treasurer.

Vernon Springs township was organized this year.

Postoffice established at the village of Lime Springs, with A. D. C. Knowlton as postmaster; this being the first in the township of Forest City.

The postoffice located at Arnoldsville was the first in Albion township, and A. Allen was commissioned the postmaster. It remained here, however, but a short time when it was removed to Osborne.

C. M. Munson opened the first store, in the village of New Oregon, during the year.

1856.

The settlement of Jamestown township dates from this year, although a few settlers had pre-empted claims therein the year before. It is recorded that a party consisting of James A. Cutting, D. P. Bradford, John Moffitt and Lyman Southard, erected a steam saw mill, which they had brought with them, near the town of Riceville. Large immigration poured into this town this year, among whom may be found, the names of Darius and Smith W. Seeley.

The first election, ever held in the town of Jamestown, was the presidential one of this year, which resulted in the election of James Buchanan, to the position of chief executive of the nation.

April 12, Marcus De Moss born, the first birth in the precinct of Jamestown.

John F. Thayer commences the erection of the hotel, at Howard Centre, early in the year, and at the grand celebration held in the grove near by, and at which M. V. Burdick and James G. Upton, spoke, the lower story was used as a ball room, although the second story was not built yet.

The record of the survey and plat, of the town of Howard Center, bears date of December 1, of this year.

The first postoffice in the township of Jamestown is established in the spring, with D. P. Bradford, to handle the mails.

This year proving dry, and the herbage growing dry, the prairie fires, destroyed much property, for the pioneers, and the cold winter coming on, the coldest they had ever known, many being without shelter, suffered, untold hardship. The fearful blizzard of December 13, will be remembered by them all, and many suffered, even unto death, notably, among which is Mr. William Niles, who attempting to cross but a short strip of open country, wandered from the track, was lost, and perished in the darkness and the storm.

Rev. John W. Windsor organizes the Congregational church at New Oregon. This is the parent of the church of the same denomination now located at Cresco.

The first marriage in the county is celebrated this year, being that of Edmund Gillett to Miss Helen Barber, this was at Vernon Springs.

The county seat is located at Vernon Springs, in the spring, by order of Judge Upton, and the books and papers of the county moved there and court held at that place.

The organization of Forest City township is perfected, and the first election held therein, resulting in electing C. S. Thurber, justice of the peace, and E. Bassett, town clerk.

The first school in the township of Forest City was opened and taught by Miss Helen VanLeuvan, in the fall of this year.

Howard and Afton townships organized in one precinct during the year.

Charles F. Bunker, born October 1st, being the first birth in the township of Howard Center.

In the spring, in Albion township, the Baptist church was organized, with Rev. T. H. Miner as pastor. Later in the year the Methodist of the community organized their church, and Rev. William Lease was chosen their spiritual leader. The Church of Christ was also organized this year, under the labors of Rev. William Phillips.

During the fall of this year, Dr. Lewis Reynolds opened and taught the first school in Albion township.



The first regular village school was opened in the town of New Oregon, and Daniel Mills assumed the tutorship.

1857.

Albion township was a part of Vernon Springs, until this year, when it withdrew, and completed a separate organization, and held its first election, at which were cast some forty-eight votes, and resulted in electing James Nichols and James Oakley, justices of the peace, and Josiah Kelley, town clerk.

The townships of Chester and Oakdale organized in one, under the name of Iowa River, and at the first election, held in April, forty-nine votes were polled, John Adams and W. Y. Wells being elected justices of the peace, and C. M. Sawyer, town clerk. In the same township the first regular district school was organized, and taught by Miss Salinda Burknep, although it is said, that a school had been in operation the year before, but of which there is nothing known of a certainty.

Postoffice, at Howard Center, established; Henry Cook being commissioned as the first postmaster thereof.

The organization of Howard Center township perfected, and first election held March 13th, at the house of John F. Thayer, resulting in the choice of Frank S. Trew, as justice of the peace; Ira Eldridge, Chas. H. Wood, and Calvin F. Webster, town trustees; T. R. Perry, town clerk; R. O. Thayer, and O. A. Bunker, constables.

The township school board was also organized, and the first tax levied in the precinct was one voted by the people for the purpose of raising funds to erect a school house. The election took place June 1st.

It is recorded that, all this year, the Rev. John W. Windsor preached on alternate Sabbaths, at the town of Howard Center, being the first to teach the word of God in that precinct.

February 5th, during a blinding snow storm, the flakes falling so thick and fast that none could see the flames half a mile off, the hotel of John Thayer, at Howard Center, was destroyed by fire. There was, at the time of the breaking out of the conflagration, a school in session in the building taught by W. B. Stone. The fire caught from a defective flue, or a broken stovepipe, and in a short time reduced the building to a pile of ashes.

The host, Mr. Thayer was in the timber at the time, getting out timbers for a barn, and when he saw the work of the devouring

elements, immediately commenced operation to rebuild him a hotel, even before the glowing coals had lost their fiery breath, he began his labors, and by the fourth of July next had the building completed, and much larger and better than before.

I. C. Chamberlain teaches the first school in the township of Paris.

The postoffice at Sturgis' Point, in the same town, located with J. I. Sturgis as postmaster.

In Jamestown township the first election for township officers was held, April 7th, and W. E. Thayer and D. Patterson were chosen constables; Willis Spencer and Darius Seeley, justices of the peace; H. Ricker, Asel Fassett, and Smith W. Seeley, town trustees.

The first school was also taught in this township, this year, Miss Jane Chandler being the teacher. The building was built of logs at "Round Grove," and for some years answered the purpose, when it grew to limited, as to space, and was replaced with a larger one of frame.

The first term of the district court, held in the county, was at Vernon Springs, Samuel Murdock being the judge. It was at this term that the first naturalization papers ever issued in the county, were taken out by Joseph S. Schafer, an alien, who desired to become a citizen of the United States.

During the fall the county seat was removed from Vernon Springs to the town of Howard Center.

First movement of the people of the county toward a railroad was initiated this year; a vote of the people offering the Northwestern railroad \$150,000 to build a road into the county. This proved of no avail, as that railway never accepted the bonus nor built any track in that direction.

The Baptist church, at Vernon Springs, organized, with Rev. C. E. Brown as pastor. The first school, in the same township, opened and taught this year by Aaron Kimball.

1858.

Howard County Sentinel, the first paper published in the county, established February 18th, by a stock company, with J. Howard Field as editor. This paper was quite a success, until it was burned out in the following year, and never re-established.

The Star of the west, another journal, was established, at New

Oregon, by Gilmore & McKay, but it had a life of but eleven weeks, ere it died.

George W. Haislet starts the Northern Light, a weekly paper at Howard Center; it lasted but one year, when it was removed to more congenial climes.

This seems to be a good year for newspapers, for we learn that the North Iowa Gazette, a democratic organ, under the editorship of Messrs. Harrison & Peck, issues its initial number. The duration of its life was only about a year, as it expired from want of patronage, there not being many democrats in the county.

During the summer the organization of Saratoga township, and the consequent election, is recorded. T. J. Gibbons being chosen justice of the peace, and John R. Buckbee, town clerk; fourteen votes were polled.

County seat moved from Howard Center and located on the bluff, between New Oregon and Vernon Springs villages, by the commission, consisting of M. V. Burdick, G. N. Holbrook, and George Bronson. These gentlemen were appointed by Judge Upton for the purpose, in answer to the wishes of the people of the county; and, finding that it could not be granted to either of the above mentioned towns, compromised the matter by giving it to neither, but placed it half way between them. The court house was commenced at that point this year, but was not finished and occupied until the next spring, and was paid for by the private subscription of both villages.

Methodist church, at Vernon Springs, organized, with Rev. Fall as pastor.

The Congregational church, at Saratoga, organized, and the first school, in that place, opened by Miss Emma Seeley.

At the organization of Paris township, this year, the vote polled was but twenty-three, and P. Smith was elected justice of the peace, and P. Griffin, town clerk.

Afton township was also organized this year, polling forty-eight votes, and electing A. M. Cowan and R. Wooten, justices of the peace.

The organization of the Methodist church, in Afton township, dates from this year.

The town of Chester laid out, in March, by A. Eaton, and the first postoffice established, and Mr. Eaton installed as the postmaster.

Methodist church, at Chester, organized, in March, by Rev. Mr. Norton, with seven members.

The first marriage in Albion township takes place, being that of Ralph Watson to Miss Martha Cassety, the ceremony being performed by Elder Griffin, a Baptist minister.

This year the Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches, at New Oregon, were organized. The former under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Waterbury.

It was during this year that the "gold fever" broke out in the northern part of the county, some deluded creatures conceiving that the auriferous metal could be found in paying quantities on the banks of the Upper Iowa river. The mania had its run, but that was to short, and the craze being over, the men settled down to work, and were once more reasonable beings.

1859.

The court house, on the bluff, near Vernon Springs and New Oregon, finished and occupied as such, in February.

The New Oregon Plaindealer established, by H. Lick and W. R. Mead; this has proved one of the few successful papers. Withstanding the storms and adversities of early journalism, it has rode triumphant into harbor. Continuing in New Oregon, until May, 1867, it was then transferred to Cresco, where it yet remains under the charge of W. R. and F. J. Mead.

The first Baptist church within the precinct of Forest City, was organized this spring, with Rev. C. E. Brown, as pastor and spiritual guide. The Methodist churches, at Foreston and Lime Springs, and the Presbyterian churches in both the above places, were also instituted during the year.

1860.

The large stone-grist mill, at Lime Springs, was completed this year, although partly built the year previous. M. M. Marsh was the sole owner and builder, and at the time of its construction the finest in this section.

The first delinquent tax sale, in the county, was held, this year, and was but slimly attended.

1861.

The mode of county government being changed this year from the hands of the county judge to that of supervisors, one from each township; the board met January 7th for the first time.

The southern slave states having now risen in arms against the government, the board of supervisors, on June 4th, pass a resolution to sustain the honor of Howard county, by pledging the resources of the county to the federal government, both in men and money. In September they pass an ordinance, by which they agree to pay every man, enlisting from the county, ten dollars as an outfit, and also to pay monthly, to the wives of such, the sum of four dollars, and one dollar to each child under twelve years of age.

Company I, ninth Iowa infantry, raised in the county, and mustered into the service of the United States, September 18th. This company did good service in the fiery battle front, returning at the close of the war with much thinned ranks, and leaving many a loved comrade in the cold embrace of death, far away in southern swamps.

1862.

The summer breezes blowing down from Minnesota bring the fearful tidings of Indian massacre and butchery. Thousands fleeing for their lives, leaving their property to be destroyed by the red fiends, came for shelter to Howard county, creating quite a scare. The county government asked the state for arms, but before the "circumlocation office" had got round to it, the need had passed away, and all was quiet once more.

Company I, thirty-eighth Iowa infantry, raised in the county, and marched to join the boys in the front. This company was mustered in at Dubuque, November 4th, and served its full time, until the close of the war.

1863.

The board of supervisors, of the county, submit to the ratification of the legal electors of the county, the question of donating all the swamp lands of the county to aid in the construction and equipment of the McGregor Western railroad, on the condition that they would build a railroad from North McGregor westward to intersect the county from east to west. At an election held October 19th, the people, by a large majority, proclaim themselves in favor of such donation.

The cemetery in Howard township laid out, also the first person interred therein being Mrs. Harriet N. Talmage, who had drowned herself, while suffering under a temporary aberration of mind.

The board of supervisors of the county, finding that it was still necessary to find a few more men to fill the quota of Howard county, in the federal army, offer the sum of three hundred dollars to all who will enlist, and be accepted, between December 7th and January 5th next, and their wives and children to receive the same monthly payments as had been paid to the others.

1865.

The board of supervisors, wanting to change the location of the county seat, declare that the present court house is unfit for the purpose, the weather having rotted it down, until it was unsafe for the records, and ordered the officers to remove the said records and papers to Vernon Springs. The board met at the latter place, but the records, etc., were not moved owing to the objections raised against it.

The time in which the McGregor Western railway was to get their track and roadbed into the county, having expired before they were enabled to do so, they asked the people to extend the time on the contract, which, at an election held in October, was accordingly done.

During the year the first effort was made to purchase a poor farm, and erect a poor house, but it fell through for want of the proper support.

1866.

In the spring of this year the McGregor Western railroad crossed the boundary of the county, and first broke ground for their track within its limits. Entering in section twenty-three, in Vernon Springs, the road passes northwest and leaves the county on section ten, Oakdale township, traversing the northeast corner, and skirting the north line of the county. The people and officers of the county justly complained at the action of the railroad company, in not complying with the terms of the contract entered into by them with the county, which recites that the road was to cross the entire length of the county, from east to west. This was the source of much trouble and litigation in the future.

The town of Cresco was laid out and platted, and the said plat placed on record, June 12th, of this year. There have been several additions made to this plat since, and now covers nearly four times as much territory as at first laid out.

The first settlement of the town also dates from this year.

The London Times, in an issue early in the ensuing year, quotes the town of Cresco as an example of the wonderful growth of the American western towns, and says "that in six months a bald prairie is covered with stores, shops, and dwellings of a thousand inhabitants, and resounds to the hum of rushing business."

The first school, in Cresco, also dates from this year, and was taught in the house, afterwards used as a private residence by Mrs. Bateman.

1867.

In the course of this year, the board of supervisors of the county are presented with a petition, signed by Augustus Beadle and others, praying that the seat of the county government be relocated at Cresco, and offering, if that was done, to erect a suitable building to be used as a court house, and for the use of the county, donate it free of any charge whatever. A committee of the whole being appointed to view the proposed site of the building, was reported upon favorably, and the board accepted the offer, and ordered the county officers to remove the records, files, papers, and offices to the new court house, when it was finished. The Howard county court house association immediately commenced the erection of the structure, which was finished in June, and the removal made. Owing to the opposition of many in the county, the county seat was not formally relocated, but by a legal fiction was still supposed to remain at "the bluff," but for the convenience the court house, at Cresco, was recognized as the real county seat.

January 20th the Howard County Times was born. The proprietors, Messrs. Wood & Mix, establishing the same under the most favorable circumstances. This paper passed through many hands since, but has never lost its prestige, as one of the brightest and best of northern Iowa's papers.

1868.

The board of supervisors submit to the action of the qualified electors, the question of levying a special tax, to furnish the necessary funds to purchase a poor farm, and erect suitable buildings, but on account of the hard times, owing to the depreciation in values, consequent on the close of the war, the people of the county saw fit to deny the tax, and for the time being the matter was dropped.

The matter of the McGregor railroad again crops out, in a petition to the legislature of the state, praying that body not to legalize the action of a former board of supervisors, donating all the swamp lands of the county, to the road, on the plea, that the said company had not complied with the terms of its contract. This matter was afterwards carried into the courts, and considerable litigation carried on, but in the end the matter was compromised, and the railroad allowed to hold possession of the lands in dispute, on the condition that the company put a depot at the town of Chester.

On the night of March 15th, the office of the county treasurer was burglariously entered, the safe broken open and the contents, amounting to \$13,000, abstracted. There has been no clue to the thief or thieves, nor never will be, in all probability, but suspicion was, and is, rife. This loss was a serious loss to the county, already burdened with debt, and helped to retard the settlement of the county.

The railroad locate their depot within three-fourths of a mile of Lime Springs and the new town, Lime Springs station, sprung into being. This town, like its neighbor, Cresco, grew with a surprising growth and before winter had cast its snowy mantle over the ground, quite a town stood on what was a before a fertile farm. Among the first merchants in the place, we find the names of Peter Velie, Jr., S. L. Cary, J. F. Cameron, W. F. Daniels, J. E. Foster, C. C. Hewitt, Joseph Knowlton, H. P. Marsh, M. M. and A. E. Marsh, Ohlquist Bros., and Alonzo Pettit.

The postoffice at Lime Springs station was established this year, with James Greenleaf as postmaster; he however, did not occupy the position, but about a month when on his resigning it, Alonzo Pettit was appointed, and still holds that office.

The town of Cresco is incorporated, and an election held for city officers, April 20th, resulting in the choice of Isaac Gregory, for mayor; W. R. Mead, recorder; Henry Widner, attorney; B. Chapin, treasurer and L. T. Woodcock, J. Clemmer, John C. Clark and John E. Peck, as council.

1869.

The station at Chester, located this year, and the business of the town receives a new impetus.



The independent school district of Cresco, organized, this year and the main part of the school building, at that place erected.

The Methodist church, in Jamestown township, was organized during the course of this year, by Elder Mapes, with some fifteen members.

1870.

The indebtedness of the county in its present state of floating warrants proving an incubus upon the finances of the treasury, the board resolved to bond it and create a sinking fund for the redemption thereof. This was accordingly done, and bonds issued in sums of \$100, and the whole debt placed in shape. It is owing to this and the able management of the funds since, that the county enjoys its present good financial condition.

By the law of the state board, the of supervisors is reduced, this year, to the number of three.

The bridge at Lime Springs, then in the process of construction, falls in ruins.

Presbyterian and Baptist churches in Lime Springs station, built during the year.

James Hendricks builds and opens the hotel in that part of the town of Riceville, which lies in Howard county.

1873.

October 21st, the Cresco Times, passed into the hands of L. E. Smith, who is at present the sole proprietor and owner.

The People's Representative, a weekly newspaper, starts on the stormy sea of journalism. This paper seems to have succumbed to the tide of adverse fates, as it no longer exists.

At the election, held in October, this year, "Jerry" Barker, received 656 votes, and W. W. White, 651, for auditor. The latter being the incumbent of that office, contested the election, claiming illegal votes on the part of the opposition. The matter continued for some time and the conflict waxed warm. The board of supervisors took the matter in hand and decided to appoint Mr. Barker to the office, claiming the right to do so; to this Mr. White objected, saying that the board had no right to remove him, and that the law approved of his right to hold the office, until his successor was elected. He was shortly reminded of the fact, that as he had been appointed by the board, to fill a vacancy, and not elected the same power could rescind the appointment. This

view of the matter caused Mr. White to surrender, and Mr. Barker entered upon the duties of the office, early in the ensuing year.

1874.

The school building, at Cresco, proving not large enough, the west wing, of that structure, was built this year, adding considerable more room.

The Methodist church of Riceville, was erected and dedicated in the early part of the year. This is one the neatest specimens of gothic architecture in the county.

1875.

The wrought iron bridge at Florenceville is constructed during the year.

1876.

The first normal institute, in the county, is held during the spring of this year. J. C. Gilchrist, of St. Paul was the director and was assisted by J. Breckenridge, of Decorah, and Miss Bucklin, of Cresco.

In May, of this year the town of Lime Springs Station is incorporated.

December 31st, the court house, at Cresco, is destroyed by fire and all the court records and valuable papers reduced to ashes. The fire is thought to have been of incendiary origin, but of this there yet lacks proof. About midnight the alarm was given and all hastened to the burning building, but too late to be of any good, as the flames had gained such a headway as to defy their feeble efforts. A strong effort was made to save the papers in the court room, but the heat and the dense volumes of smoke drove back, all such as volunteered for the forlorn hope. In a few short hours the building was reduced to a pile of glowing ashes, and smoking heaps of rubbish.

1877.

This year will ever remain notorious, from the defalcation and absconding of the treasurer, Frank Kyte. It seems, that Monday, July 12th, the news was received in Cresco, that Mr. Kyte was drowned at McGregor, the afternoon before. On receipt of intelligence, several of the most prominent citizens, left for the point in question to verify the report, and if true, to recover the body. On their arrival at that city they found that, although strenuous efforts

had been, and were being made that no signs of the corpse were visible. After developments opened the eyes of all, and the conviction was forced upon them, that instead of being drowned, Frank Kyte, had decamped with \$18,500 of the county's money, and that the story of his drowning was a plot, to cover up his tracks.

The corporation of Cresco, extends its limits southward so as to take in the bluff, whereon rested the legal county seat, and so absorbing, as it were, that honor. This settled the county seat question, it is hoped definitely.

1878.

The people of the county, seeing that a rigid adherence to the letter of law, and a strict government of the bond of Frank Kyte, the defaulting treasurer, would work the financial ruin of many persons who had signed it, petition the board of supervisors to compromise the matter with them. This was accordingly done, and the matter rested.

1880.

The new court house, at Cresco, rebuilt and re-occupied by the county officers.

The first class to graduate, from the Cresco high school, held its commencement exercises this year.

1881.

The debt, of the independent school district of Cresco, is bonded by resolution of the board of school control.

1882.

Jail and sheriff's residence erected, in court house square, by the county.



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

---

### VERNON SPRINGS TOWNSHIP.

---

A. B. Barnes, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in N. Y., in 1830, and is the the third son of Charles and Sarah Barnes. At the age of twenty-five years, he came to Iowa, and lived in Clayton and Lucas counties until, coming to this county in 1866. He has filled the offices of assessor and trustee, and owns 320 acres in section 3. He was married in 1852; to Miss Fidelia Adams, they have five children, Charles C., Willard A., Sarah E., Edwin C. and Edgar J.

Joseph Batterham, farmer, and superintendent of the "county poor farm," also owner of eighty acres in section 16, was born in England, in 1842, and is the oldest son of Joseph and Mary A. Batterham. At the age of twenty-one years, he came to the U. S. and first settled in Cook county, Ill., where he remained until coming to this county. In 1880, Mr. Batterham, assumed the mangement of the poor farm, and has proved himself, the right man in the right place. He was married in 1870 to Francis Batterham, and their children are, Mary L. and Grace M.

Sylvester Barnes, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in N. Y., in 1841, and is the oldest son of James and Mary Barnes. He came west at the age of fifteen years, settling in this county, and state. He was married in 1861, to Miss Catherine Ferrie, their children are, John W., James H., Maggie, Andrew, Joseph, Michael, Amanda, Frank, Leo and Sylvester. Mr. B. owns 160 acres of land, in section 32, valued at \$25 per acre.

Thomas P. Davies, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in Wales, in 1817, and is the second son of Thomas and Ann Davies. He came to America when twenty-one years of age, and landed in New Orleans, where he remained three years, and then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, remaining there until 1844, in which year he went to Janesville, Wis., and lived there until 1855, he then came to Iowa, settling where he now resides. He has been swamp land commissioner, notary public and justice of the peace, several years, and took an active part in the locating and building of the C., M. & St. P. R. R. He owns 374 acres of land in section 35 and 26. He was married in 1847, to Mrs. Maria J. Granda, a native of N. Y.; her maiden name Vinnie Gibbs, she is the daughter of the Hon. Dr. Leonard Gibbs, a physician of eminence and ex-circuit judge, and custom house officer, her first husband died in the year of 1843.

B. D. Evringham, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in Canada, in 1832, and is the third son of Jacob and Margaret Evringham. His parents moved to Illinois, when he was eight years of age, and remained in that state seven years, then removed to Dubuque county, Iowa, and seven years later to Clayton county, in 1858, he came to Howard county. He was married in 1857, to Miss Elizabeth Moon, by whom he had five children—Frank D., Helen M., Mary J., Emma R. and Ida E. His wife died in 1871, and he was again married in 1873, to Miss Helen D. Hunt; their children are, Effie F., Edith L., Mabel D., Bertha C. and Alice E. Mr. Evringham, is a veteran of the late war, having enlisted in the thirty-

eighth Iowa volunteer infantry, under Col. Hughes, serving in the western department, he received promotion from orderly seargent, to second lieutenant and was discharged at Davenport, Ia., in 1865. He owns a farm of eighty acres in section 34, valued at \$50.00 per acre.

J. M. Field, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in England in 1817, and is the oldest son of Wm. and Susan Field, he came to the United States at the age of twenty-four years, and lived in New York thirteen years, then came to Howard county, Iowa. He owns 120 acres of land in section 28, valued at \$50.00 per acre. He was married in 1842, to Miss Sophia A. Loors, their children are Ella D., Alice M., Cora L. and Ida B.

William Kellow, Senior, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in England, in 1822, and is the eldest son of Joseph and Mary Kellow. He came to the United States, in 1852, stopping two years in Indiana, he then came to Howard county. He owns sixty acres of land in section 27, valued at \$50 per acre. He was married in 1845, to Miss Maria Rawle, and their children are, Joseph C., William, Jane, Samuel R., Maria R. and Mary L.

W. K. Barker, of the law firm of Barker Bros., attorneys at law, was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, in 1845, is a son of Jeremiah and J. L. Barker. In 1857, he came to Howard county, and located on a farm, one and one-half miles east of where Cresco now stands. In 1863, he enlisted in company B, seventh Iowa, volunteer infantry, and served until the close of the war; was in all the battles that his regiment participated in going with Sherman in his march to the sea. The next ten years was spent in teaching and farming, and in '76, he began reading law, with Mr. Reed, and in 1877, was admitted to practice. He married Ada C. Brown, of Massachussetts, and they have one child, William Floyd.

G. W. Halsted, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in Ohio, in 1834, and is the eldest son of S. L. and Mary Halsted, who removed to Wisconsin, when he was twelve years of age; he remained there until

1856, when he came to this county and state. He owns 230 acres of land, in section 31, valued at \$20 per acre. He was married in 1861, to Mrs. L. C. Jones, and has four children—Wilton E., Estella A., Nellie F. and George A. Mrs. Halsted had one child, a daughter, by her former marriage—Alice E. Jones. In 1863, Mr. Halsted enlisted in the seventh Iowa infantry volunteers, at New Oregon, and was detailed at Davenport, as forage master. He was disabled by a fall from his horse, and was finally discharged in 1865.

J. J. Lowry, sheriff; was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, in 1845; he is a son of Jacob and Henrietta Lowry, natives of Germany. When he was twelve years of age, he removed with his parents to Winnesheik county, this state, where he remained but two years, when he came to this county. In 1866, he engaged in the drug business, which he continued until 1877, when he sold his business to C. J. Webber. Two years later he was elected sheriff of Howard county, and was re-elected in 1881, and still holds the position. Mr. Lowry was married to Jennie Mullen, a native of Wisconsin, they have two children, Frederick B. and Norbert J. Mr. L. and family are members of the Luthren church.

G. E. Marsh, attorney at law; was born in Catteraugus county, New York, in 1853; is the son of G. O. and E. A. Marsh. In 1866, he came west with his parents, and located at Jessup, Buchanan county, Ia., where he made it his home until 1876. He read law with Lake & Harmon of Independence, and was admitted to practice, in 1876. He went to Ossage, and for a short time practiced law, and soon after came to Cresco, and is now a member of the law firm of Reed & Marsh.

J. A. Dilworth, proprietor of the Dilworth house, was born in Philadelphia, November 26, 1838, and is a son of Norris C. and Martha R. Dilworth. When he was yet in infancy his parents removed to Connecticut, where he grew to manhood. In 1861 he enlisted in company F, fifth Connecticut volunteers, and served

three years and three months. In 1865 he came west, locating in Lake City, Minn., where he remained five years. The next two years he made several changes, and, finally, in 1872 took charge of the Dilworth house, of which he is now owner and proprietor. He married Julia I. Holmes, also of Connecticut, and they have four children, Henry N., Justina, Otto L. G., and Julia.

Fred. Miller, dealer in harness, saddles, boots and shoes; was born in Bavaria, in 1834; came to America, in 1850, and located in New York city; the same year he went to Savannah, Georgia, and thence back to Niagara Falls, and thence he came west, to Winona, Minn., where he remained twelve years; from there he went to McGregor, and finally settled, in Cresco, where he now resides. He has been twice married, his first marriage was to Harriett Tubbs, a native of New York, and who died in 1868, leaving two children, William and John. His second marriage was to Caroline King, a native of Germany; they have three children, Jennie, Lottie, and Albert.

G. Meverden, dealer in furniture; was born in Holland, in 1834; is a son of Richard and Harriett Meverden. He came to America, in 1852, and settled, in Wisconsin, in 1865; then came to Conover, and six months later came to Cresco, where he has since resided. He married Bertha Grenwold, a native of Germany; they have two children, Hattie and Daniel.

L. Swensen, proprietor of the Cresco tow mill, erected in 1876, was born in Norway, in 1841, came to America, with his parents, when yet an infant; locating in Racine county, Wis. The subject of this sketch learned the trade of machinist, in Chicago, and Milwaukee, and has since been engaged in the same calling. In 1874 he came to Cresco and started a foundry, which he afterwards sold to Mr. Lowry. He married Annie Johnson, also a native of Norway; they have two children, Rosa May, and Johnny.



J. J. Mason, proprietor of the Webster house; was born in Vermont, in 1812; is a son of Elias and Betsy Coburn Mason, both natives of Massachusetts. When the subject of this sketch was twelve years of age, his parents removed to New York, where he lived until he reached his twenty-first year. In 1837 he came west, locating in Chicago, thence to Milwaukee, and in 1855 he came to Iowa, locating in the town of Howard, Afton township, this county. The following year he went to Decorah, farmed a short time, and soon after purchased the Decorah house; one year later he moved to Waukon, and was a resident of Allamakee county for some time. He kept the Mason house a short time. Mr. Mason made a number of changes within the next few years, and we will only record his keeping the winnesheik house, in Decorah, in company with A. J. McClasky, his son-in-law. In 1880 he purchased the Webster house, of which he is still proprietor. His wife was Diana C. Orton, a native of New York.

Wentworth Bros., proprietors of meat market, Cresco, Iowa. These enterprising young men established their business in September of 1882, and are doing the leading business in their line, in Cresco. A. N. Wentworth, the elder brother, was born in Canada, in 1854, and in 1870 came to Cresco; he married Maria Hamilton, and they have four children, two sons and two daughters. W. A. C. Wentworth, the younger brother, was also born in Canada, being four years younger than his brother; he came to Cresco, in 1872.

O. N. Hoyt, physician and surgeon, was born in Magog, Canada, east, in 1843; is a son of Nason and Miranda Hoyt. When he was thirteen years of age, his parents removed to this county, located in Paris township. O. N.'s early life was spent on his father's farm, and when yet a young man, he engaged in teaching, which he followed ten years. In 1873 he was elected county superintendent, which position he held two terms. He graduated at the Hahneman Medical College, at Chicago, in the class of '79.

He was married to Amelia E. Laskey, a native of Chicago; they have two children, Jessie and Alonzo.

William Wilbraham, attorney at law; was born in Malone, Franklin county, N. Y., in 1846; is a son of Joseph W. and Jane Wilbraham. In 1851 he went with his parents to LaPorte, Ind., at which place he made his home until 1878. In 1862 he enlisted in company E, fourth Indiana cavalry, and served until the close of the war. In 1878 he came to Cresco, read law with C. F. Breckenridge, and was admitted to practice in April 1881. He married Celesta Webster, a native of Indiana.

J. M. McCoy, lumber dealer, Cresco; was born in Linden, Vermont, in 1840, and is the youngest son of William and Johanna McCoy. When he was six years old his parents removed to Nashua, N. H., where he lived until he was eighteen years of age, and then came west, to Dodge county, Wis., where he made his home until 1876. Mr. McCoy opened a lumber yard in Decorah, which he conducted during 1864 and 1865; also had yards in Postville, Castalia, and Ossian. He came to Cresco, in 1876, and took charge of the lumber business, of Day Bros., which position he still holds. He purchased a farm of 800 acres, in partnership with a Mr. Hale, which he still conducts. He married Ida Dexter, a native of New Hampshire.

E. E. Bertrand, photographer, and dealer in musical instrument, Cresco, Iowa; established business in 1871; was born in Vermont, in 1853, came west in 1860, settling in Ripon, Wis., thence to St. Charles, Minn. He learned his trade in Rochester, Minn., and then came direct to Cresco, and established business for himself. Mr. B. is said to have the best photograph rooms in the state; he makes a specialty of instantaneous dry plate work.

C. F. Webster was born in Richland county, Ohio, in 1830, and is the son of Asaph and A. Webster, who were natives of the state of New York. When but four years old his parents moved to Joliet, Illinois, where he lived two years, and then moved to

LaPorte, Ind., remaining in the latter place twenty years, and in 1856 came to Howard county, locating at Howard Center, where he resided until the year 1860, when, being elected to the office of county clerk, he took up his residence at New Oregon, the county seat at that time. On the expiration of his term of office, in 1864, he returned to farming, and continued therein until he was re-elected, in 1874, since which period he has held the office. Mr. W. was married to Serena I. Irvin, a native of Ohio; they have three children, Clara E., Allie I., and Edith May.

John E. Peck, county auditor, elected in 1877—was born in Oneida county, N. Y., in 1832; is a son of Edward and Mary Eastman Peck, both of whom are natives of New York. When 19 years of age he came to Chicago, and was for a time employed by a lumber company. In the fall of 1853 he went to Janesville, Wis., where he engaged in the lumber trade. In this he continued until 1856, in which year he came to McGregor, Iowa. Here he remained in the same line of business until 1862, in which year he enlisted in Co. I, 27th Ia. Inf., serving until the close of the war. He was promoted from a second to first lieutenancy soon after enlistment. After the the war closed he went to Conover in the interests of a lumber firm, and in 1866 came to Cresco, indentifying himself with the lumber trade, and selling his business to Carver, Jacobs & Co. in 1874. He then entered the machinery business, in which he continued until his election to the county auditorship as recorded above. Mr. Peck is a member of the Congregational church, and is in politics a republican with greenback, anti-monopoly proclivities. He married Mary E. Barnes of New York, and has three children, Addie B., Charles B. and Louisa M.

W. H. Patterson. County recorder, was born in Erie Co., Penn. in 1838, and is a son of William & Mary Campbell Patterson, both of whom were born in New York state. When he was seventeen

years of age his parents removed to Chagrin Falls, Ohio, thence to Euclid and soon after to Ashtabula, Ohio. In April 185—they came to Iowa and located in south west part of this Co., where the subject of this sketch lived until 1860, when he was appointed deputy recorder, & treasurer, which position he held until Aug. 1862. Then enlisted in Co. I, 38th Iowa Vol., as 2nd Lieutenant & was soon after promoted to first Lieutenant; he was discharged in Louisiana, after serving two and one half years. On his return to this Co., he engaged in the drug trade which business he continued a short time. In 1865 he was appointed county recorder, and he has been elected to the same position at every election since that time. He received his education at the Asbury seminary, Chagrin Falls, Ohio. He married Sarah Carpenter a native of New York, they have six children, namely William, Wilber, Arthur, Henry, Joseph and Fritz. Mr. Patterson and wife are members of the M. E. church, his political views are republican.

A. F. Baumgartner, grocer and part proprietor of the Lime Springs mills, is a son of C. and Fredricka Baumgartner, and was born in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1856, and lived in that city until 1876, when he removed to Cresco, Ia., and was employed as clerk in one of the business houses there. In 1879 he opened the grocery house of A. F. Baumgartner & Co. In February, 1883, he purchased an interest in the Lime Springs mill.

John Steinman, farmer, P. O. Cresco, is a native of Ohio, and was born in 1840, he is the second son, of Adam and Rebecca Steinman, who, in his childhood, moved to Ill., and after a residence there of seven years, went to Winnesheik county, Iowa where he remained until 1872, then came to Howard county. Mr. S. owns 240 acres of land in section 9, valued at \$35 per acre. He has filled the offices of town clerk and secretary of school board, and has been indentified with the Howard county, agricultural society, for several years, having been secretary three terms. He

was married in 1874 to Mary James, and has three children, Elsie M., Leah H. and Jessie.

J. G. Upton, farmer, section 5, 13 & 24, P. O. Cresco; owns 400 acres of land, valued at \$50 per acre, was born in Hillsborough county, New Hampshire, in 1814, is the second son of John and Phoebe Upton. When five years old his parents removed to Vermont; when thirty-five years of age he left Vermont, and went to Chicago, Ill. After a residence of some years there, he removed to Alamakee county, Iowa, where he remained until 1855. He then moved to Howard county, Iowa, and has resided there since. He was married in 1850, to Miss Sarah A. Miles, a native of Maine, and has six children, Emma B., James H., Ada M., Clark C., Alena and Abe L.

John I. Sturgis, dealer in groceries and provisions, was born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1816, is a son of John and Susan Sturgis, both natives of New York; in '36 he went to New York city, and learned the trade of type founder and machinest, where he remained until 1855, when he removed to Iowa, locating in this county, in 1856. His occupation has been farming, and for a number of years a dealer in hardware, at New Oregon; in 1882 he came to Cresco and engaged in business, as above. His wife was Eliza Hope, of Pittsburg, Penn.

E. I. Barker, dealer in hardware, stoves, and tinware, was born in Richmond, Wayne, county, Indiana, in 1836; he is a son of Jeremiah and Jane Barker. In 1857 he came to Howard county, and located one and a half miles east of where Cresco now stands.

In 1862 he enlisted in Co. D, 38th Ia. Inf., and served two years, being discharged as second lieutenant. He continued farming until 1869, when he established his present business. He was married to Jane Brow a native of Ills. they have six children, Malinda J., Ulysses S., George S., Josephene, Kate Eleanor and Philip S.

Charles Byrnes, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 120 acres of land in section 32 and 35. Mr. B. was born in Ireland, in 1835, and is the son of John F. and Ann Byrnes. In 1849 he immigrated to the United States, with his parents, and settled first in New York, remaining three years, then moved to Dodge county, Wis., where he lived twenty eight years; then came to Iowa, settling first in Buchanan county, then to, Howard county. He was married in 1857, to Miss Ann Madden, also a native of Ireland, and has eight children, Julia, John, Mary T., Margaret E., Lucy A., Chas. E. Lizzie and Anna, all of whom are now living.

John G. Stradley, real estate, loan and insurance agent, established business in 1873.

Joseph Richards, retired farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in Pa., in 1818, and is the tenth son of Martin and Catherine M. Richards. In 1854 he moved to Minnesota remaining eight years, then came to Howard county. He was married in 1846, to Miss Rebecca J. McBride, a native of Pa. Their children are Wm. L., Thomas B., Catherine M. and Mary J. He served during the late war, in the sixth Ia. cavalry, serving one year and eight months under Col. Wilson; he received honorable discharge, on account of wounds received at the battle of Stone river, in Sept., 1863.

W. H. Roche, blacksmith, P. O. Cresco; was born in 1847, in Ireland; his parents came to America, in his infancy, and settled at Aurora, Ill.; he remained there, until 1856, when he came to Howard county. He was married in 1871, to Margaret Brady; the children are Wm. W., Katie E., Charles J., Mary E. and Maggie A. Mr. R. owns eighty acres of land, valued at \$20 per acre, and has filled the offices of town clerk, assessor and councilman.

A. Rivers, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in Canada, in 1820, and is the fifth son of Edward and Mary Rivers; when seventeen years of age he went to N. Y., remaining one and one-half years, then spent a few months in Pa., and went to Wis., where he remained until 1858. He then came west, and located in Howard county; where he now owns, 315 acres of land, valued at \$30, per

acre. He has filled many offices in the township. He was married in 1845, to Agnes Stenhouse; their children are Mary E., William T., Edward, Alac and Lincoln.

Wm. Rumsey, farmer, P. O. Cresco; born in 1812, in the state of N. Y.; and is the third son of David and Lydia Rumsey. He remained in N. Y., about twenty-four years, then lived in Ill. four years, and in Wis. twenty-three years, then spent one year, in Ill., and came to Howard county, Ia., in 1854; he only remained four years, then spent six years in Wis., and returned to this county, and state. He owns 320 acres in sec. 24 and 25. He has filled the offices of prosecuting attorney, and justice of the peace. He was married in 1856, to Miss Francis A. Dunn, their children are Lydia M., Wm., James, Kate and Roberta E. Mr. Rumsey, also owns sixty acres of land in Orleans township, Winnesheik county, Iowa.

Joseph Archer, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns eighty acres, in section 16, valued at \$60, per acre. Was born in N. Y. in 1832, and is the third son of John and Sarah Archer. He came west in 1866, and after a residence of seven years in Lime Springs, he moved to Vernon Springs township. He enlisted in 1861, in the fourteenth N. Y. infantry under Col. McQuade, and participated in the first battle of Bull Run. He was married in 1857, to Miss Mary Edsall, a native of N. Y., by whom he has two children, Edward A. and Frederick W.

Horace Bishop, a retired farmer, and resident of Cresco, was born in 1831, in the state of N. Y., and is the eldest son of Wm. and Almira Bishop. His parents moved to Indiana where he was five years of age. In 1850 he went to California and Australia, remaining five years, then returned to Indiana, when he remained fifteen years; he then came to this county and state. He now owns a farm of 160 acres in section 18, in Vernon Springs township, valued at \$20 per acre. Mr. B. has filled the office of justice of the

peace several years. He was married in 1855, to Miss Mary M. Stover, a native of La Porte, Ind., and their children are, Hattie M., Orpha M., Nellie and Albert V.

Wm. Brierley, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 160 acres in section 29, valued at \$30 per acre; born in England, 1825. He came to the U. S., when twenty-two years of age, and lived twenty-one years in Philadelphia. In 1870, he came to Iowa, and located, where he now resides. He was married in 1851, to Miss Ann Bates, and their children are, Elizabeth, Martha, Mary, Willie, Ben, Jennie, and John.

C. L. Bents, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 240 acres in sec. 12, valued at \$30, per acre; born in the state of Ohio, in 1847, and is the eldest son, of Henry and Amanda Bents, his parents moved in his infancy to Indiana, and soon after to Iowa, locating in Howard county. Mr. B. has been in the employ of the American, and other sewing machine Co's. for five years as traveling salesman. He was married in 1882 to Miss Hattie Goodrich, of Fayette county, Iowa.

James Barnes, farmer, P. O. Cresco; is a native of Ireland, and was born in the year 1820, he is the second son of James and Margaret Barnes; they came to America, when Jas. was ten years of age, settled first in Canada, and lived part of the time in N. Y., previous to coming west in 1856, they then located, where he now resides, and owns eighty acres of land, valued at \$25 per acre. Married in 1839, to Miss Mary O'Connor, they have five children, Sylvester, Margaret, Michael, James, Daniel, Jerry and Mary Jane.

Hon. Frank Sayre, ex-mayor, and attorney at law, was born in Peoria, Ill., in 1853; is a son of Perry O., and Annie Sayre; his father died when he was in infancy, and his mother soon after came to Iowa, and located at Johnstontown, Jones county. In 1860, the subject of this sketch, went to St. Louis, and remained until 1866, when he returned to Jones county, and grew to man-



hood; he graduated in the law department of the State University, in the class of '75; and in the same year came to Cresco, and engaged in practice. Was married to Ollie Rafferty in 1875; they have one child.

John Mc Cook, of the law firm of McCartie & McCook, attorneys at law, Cresco; was born in Burks county, Penn., in 1855, is a son of Thomas, and Euphema McCook. When he was two years of age his parents removed to this county, where they have since resided. The subject of this sketch was raised on a farm, and received his education at the common schools, and the Decorah institute. He read law with Mr. McCartie, and was admitted to practice, in April, 1881, and has been a member of the firm of McCartie & McCook, since February, 1882.

John Farnsworth, banker; was born, in Muscatine, Ia., in 1839, a son of Azel and Ann Farnsworth, of Vermont. He remained in Muscatine, until the breaking out of the rebellion, when he entered the pay master's department, which position he filled for three and one-half years. He married Mary C. Mason, a native of Indiana, and they have five children, Emma, Edwin P., Clinton E., Mary and Asa A. In 1869, Mr. F. came to Cresco, and engaged in the banking business, which he still continues.

Thompson & Johnson Bros., dealers in general merchandise, which business was established in 1876. R. Thompson, senior member of the above firm, is a native of Norway, born in 1852, and came to America, in 1871. He first located on a farm in Hesper township, Winnesheik county. Then came to Cresco, and was employed as clerk, until he established his present business. He married Mary Ulrickson, a native of Winnesheik county, Ia., and has three daughters.

— A. Norton, of the firm of Norton Bros., liverymen, established business in 1873, at Cresco; was born in Courtland county, New York, in 1840, and is the son of S. G. and Margaret Norton, who in 1853, came west, locating in White Water, Wis. He came to Howard county, in 1865, and engaged in farming, and in 1873,

went into his present business. He was married to Lura Dow, a native of the state of New York, and their children are—Alva and Alta.

C. J. Webber, druggist, Cresco, Ia.; was born in Germany, in 1851, and came to America, in 1867; he first located in Chicago, where he remained until 1874, when he came to Cresco, and engaged in business as above. He married Carrie J. Tuttle a native of Sweden, and their children are, J. T. and Parepa.

Lawson T. Woodcock, agent for the C., M. and St. P. R. R. at Cresco, Ia.; was born in Worcester county, Mass., in 1825, and is the son of Tisdale and Patty Baker Woodcock. He lived in that county until 1853, and was in business in Waterville, Mass., about one year. He then came to Iowa, locating at Waukon. In 1866, he moved to Cresco, and took charge of the railroad office. He married Francis Maria Tuel, a native of Westmoreland county, N. H.

R. J. McHugh, dealer in agricultural implements; business established, 1880; was born at Lindsay, Ont., in 1852, and is the son of Patrick and Ann McHugh, natives of Ireland. He left Canada in 1870, and located in Omaha, remaining one year, then returned to Canada. In 1878, he again left Canada, and traveled two years, in Oregon. In 1880, he located here and established business. He was married in December, 1880, to Agnes Kirby, of Lawler, and they have one child, Mary E.

J. J. Clemmer, M. D., Druggist, Cresco, Ia.; was born in Fayette county, Penn., in 1834, and the son of Jasper and Delilah, Clemmer, who in 1850 removed to Green county, Wis., where he remained until 1856; in which year he came to this county, and state. He graduated in the class of '56, from the eclectic medical institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, and commenced the practice of medicine in the same year, he established the first drug store in the county, at New Oergon, in 1860. He removed his stock to Cresco, in 1866, when the town was first located on the railroad.

J. G. Doan, dealer in hardware, etc., business established in 1870; was born in Canada in 1829, and is the son of Mathew and Magdaline Doan. They came to the United States, when he was two years old, and settled in Cass county, Mich., where he grew to manhood. He lived in Wis., a short time, and then came to Iowa, locating first in Fayette county. In 1870, he came to Cresco, and established business. He married Mary A. Blakesley, and their children, are, Walter E., Harriet M., Fred M. and Frank M.

Geo. Morse, dealer in agricultural implements, established business in '77. He was born in Steuben Co., N. Y., in 1817, and is the son of Charles and Sophia Morse. His parents moved, in his infancy, to Connecticut, where he grew to manhood. In 1843, he went to Syracuse, N. Y., remaining one year, then to Cass county, Mich.; he came to Howard county, Ia., in 1856, and settled on a farm in Oregon township, remaining sixteen years. In 1872 he came to Cresco, and has been in various business enterprises, previous to establishing his present business. He married Miss Dewanner Clowes; their children are Franklin, Horace G., George A. and Dewanner E.

A. A. Eddy, physican and surgeon, Cresco, Ia.; born in Vermont, in 1843, and is the son of J. H. and Celecta Eddy, who, when he was eleven years old, came to Iowa, and settled in Freemont township, Winnesheik county, where he received a common school education. He entered the Chicago medical college, and graduated with the class of '80, and immediately commenced the practice of medicines. He married Euzetta Town, a native of Ohio; their children are S. J., W. E. and W. G.

John McNamara, retired; was born in Ballycorry, one mile from Enis, county, Clare Ireland, in March, 1814. He is the tenth son of Thomas and Mary McNarmara. He immigrated to America, when twenty-five years old, and settled in Washington connty, N. Y.; lived there four years, then removed to Saratoga county

N. Y., and engaged in the blacksmith business. He there six years, then went to New York city and engaged with the sixth avenue railroad company, and remained with them ten years; from there; he removed to Philadelphia, Pa.; from there to Cincinnati, Ohio. In '64, removed to Illinois, and lived there one year and eight months. For eight months he acted as delivery clerk in a lumber yard; also worked in the north side rolling mills, for five months, In '67, moved to Decorah, Ia., and after a residence of five months, removed to Howard county, and has lived there ever since. He was married in '44, to Miss Mary Cullen, a native of Ireland; has had five children—Mary A., who is now Sister Mary Rose, in a convent, in Pennsylvania; Thos. P., a resident of New York; Eliza J., Susan J. and Sarah; the latter three deceased. He enlisted in '61, as a private, in the twenty-ninth Pennsylvania volunteer infantry under Col. J. K. Murphy; first saw service in the battle of Balls Bluff, also participated in the battles of Antietom, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburgh; was then transferred to the army of the Cumberland, and participated in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Pea Ridge and Taylors Ridge. He afterwards accompanied Sherman in his memorable march to the sea, and was honorably discharged at Chattanooga, Tenn. Mr. McNamara left New York and went to Philadelphia, to enlist, leaving a salary of \$1,500 a year.

S. M. Willman, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in '19, at Litchfield, Conn., and is the second son of Joseph and Deborah Wildman. His parents moved to Genesee county, N. Y., when he was four years old, and lived there twenty-two years; moved to Rock county, Wis. After a residence of twenty-seven years in that state, he removed to Howard county, Ia., where he owns 100 acres of land in the above township, valued at \$50 per acre. Mr. W. has been a member of the county board of supervisors; he has also held other offices in the township and county. He was mar-

ried in '48, to Miss Adeline Wheeler, of N. Y. Their children are, Egbert B., Albert M., Wilber A., Clara and Fred.

John B. Stevens, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in Belgium in 1822, and in '59 he came to the United States. After a residence of thirteen years in Wis., he went to St. Louis, Mo., and then to New Orleans, La., afterwards returning to Milwaukee, Wis., and finally to Howard county, Ia., in '58. He was married in the following year, to Miss Mary Price; their children, are, Adolph, Albert, William, Theodore, John, Frank, Sophia and Ada. Mr. Stevens owns eighty acres of land in section 3, valued at \$25 per acre.

Ransom White, farmer, P. O. Cresco, born in Franklin county, N. Y., in 1854, and is the fifth son of Alexis and Emily White. His parents moved in his infancy to Fayette county Ia., and after residing there one year, they moved to Lime Springs in this county, remaining four years, then to Vernon Springs township, where he now resides, and owns 160 acres of land in sections 18 and 19, valued at \$20 per acre. He was married in '79, to Miss Alice Eldridge, they have one child—Edna.

J. Salisbury, Miller, P. O. Cresco; operates and is part owner of the Vernon Springs flouring mills, was born in Vermont, in 1816, is the sixth son of Reuben and Mariam Salisbury. When he was six years old, his parents left Vermont, and moved to Oswego county, N. Y., he lived there, and in Jefferson county in the same state, until 1857, then went to Dubuque, Ia., and lived there and in Delaware counties until '71, when he came to Howard county, and purchased the above named mills of J. I. Case, of Racine, Wis. Mr. Salisbury was married in '39, to Miss Margaret Dingman, a native of New York; has five children, Adeline, Henry C., Dewitt L., Imogene and Fred. He enlisted at Dubuque, in '64, in the forty-sixth Iowa infantry, Col. Henderson commanding, and was stationed at Collinsville; was discharged September, '64.

Lathrop E. Smith, editor, Cresco; born in 1837, in Upper Canada; moved with his parents, to Beloit, Wis., in '46. Learned the

printer's trade and attended the public schools and college, at Beloit; was married in 1863, to Minerva Noble, of that place. Since his school days, excepting about four years spent on a farm, for health, he has been continually in the newspaper business. While in college he was one of the editors of the College Monthly. He stepped from that to an editorial and proprietary interest in the Beloit Journal, the office in which he learned his trade. During the war at the solicitation of members of the Union League, he established the Standard, a radical republican paper, in the strongly democratic town of Burlington, Wis. Mr. Smith moved to Cresco, Iowa, in April, '73, since which time he has been sole editor and proprietor of the Howard County Times. Mr. Smith was one of early republicans, and all of his papers have been exponents of the party, liberal and progressive. He has always taken especial interest in educational matters, and is now serving his fourth term as president of the Cresco school board. He is actively identified with temperance and other reformatory works; and has prospered in all his business enterprises.

W. R. Mead, editor, Cresco. The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Mayfield, Montgomery county, N. Y., July 22, 1824. When eight years of age, he removed to Chautauqua county, N. Y., with his parents, residing there until the fall of '53. At the time of their settlement in Chautauqua county, it was nearly one unbroken wilderness, without roads, inhabitants or school houses, and at no time, during the minority of the subject of this sketch, did he reside nearer than within three miles of a public school. These years, were nearly all spent upon the farm of his father in the town of Busti, now owned and occupied by two of his brothers. All his early opportunities for an education were obtained from the instruction of his father, and from access to a neighboring library, of choice selected works. At the age of seventeen years, he began the duties of a pedagogue, in a district school, in Warren county, Penn. In this role, several years succeeding were occupied, with intervals each fall at the village acad-

emy, in Jamestown. The period occupied in teaching, much of which was in one particular school, his evenings were occupied in reading law, and in conducting the editorial columns of the northern citizen, a newspaper conducted in the interest of Hon. Reuben E. Fenton, before he had that prefix, and which vocation he continued until after the democrats had elected Mr. Fenton to congress, in 1852. At about this time he was admitted as an attorney and counselor at law. In 1853 he removed to Beloit, Wis., and in 1854, to Dubuque, Iowa, where, until the fall of 1857, he was a writer on the Daily North West. In November of that year he changed his residence to Howard county, locating at New Oregon, and engaging in the practice of law. At about this time he was admitted to practice in the supreme court of the state. In 1859, in company with his brother, F. J. Mead, he became a proprietor in, and editor of, the Iowa Plain Dealer, at New Oregon, removing to Cresco with his business in 1867, and still continuing as editor and joint proprietor in the Plain Dealer. In 1872 he sold out his law business and library, confining his time, and attention, solely to the newspaper business. He has never held any public office; never sought one, and has uniformly declined proffers of personal and political friends in that direction.

Hon. John McHugh, the subject of this sketch is the eldest son of P. McHugh and Anna Walker. He was born near Lindsay, Ontario—then Upper Canada—December 23, 1842. He was born on the farm upon which his mother grew to womanhood, and in the same neighborhood where his father spent his boyhood days. In early life, Mr. McHugh, shared all the toil and hardships incidental to farm life, and was equally at home at the handles of the plow, swinging an axe, grain cradle, or tending stock. In July, 1863, he married Miss Margaret Falvey, and the November following he left the farm, to accept the position of governor of the county gaol, obtained through the influence of his father, who was then warden of the county. In 1866 he was smitten with the western fever, and resigned his position, to come west. In June, 1867,

having rented his farm property, which he still owns, he bade good-bye to Canada, and started for Dubuque, where he remained a few months, and not finding a position to suit him, he moved up to McGregor, and soon after entered the employ of W. & J. Flemming, of lumber fame. He spent one year as foreman of their extensive yard, when the firm, recognizing his value, sent him to take charge of their interests at Lawler, in the adjoining county of Chickasaw. This was in the spring of 1870, and during the next five years Mr. McHugh filled the various offices of township trustee, school director, recorder, and mayor. In the fall of 1875 the republican party of Chickasaw county, anxious to redeem the legislative wing of their ticket from the democrats, who had controlled it for the two preceeding terms, nominated Mr. McHugh, who was elected by over 400 majority, notwithstanding the rest of the republican ticket was defeated by an average majority of about 400. The same fall he started the bank of Lawler, in company with D. R. Kerby, who still conducts it. In November, 1877, he opened the Howard county bank, at Cresco, which he still continues to operate. He is also the proprietor of the celebrated Kendallville roller mills, where he keeps a herd of short horn cattle, that have a reputation among stock men throughout north-eastern Iowa. He is an enthusiastic stock man, and is credited with knowing much more about the business than men in his business usually do. In religion Mr. McHugh is a strict Roman Catholic, though exceedingly liberal toward other denominations, as might be expected from a gentleman of culture and reading. In temperance he is a most exemplary follower of Father Mathew, and believes in the "taste not, touch not, handle not" doctrine, of the world renowned apostle, yet Mr. McHugh is not a "legal" temperance man, and took decided grounds against the constitutional amendment. In politics he is a firm believer in republican principles, and has voted with the party since he cast his first ballot. He is not so partizan a politician, however, as to close his



eyes to the mistakes of his party, and takes strong ground against the evil tendencies of corporate power, under various forms, and disguises. He is an active and aggressive worker in politics, or business, and devotes nearly all his time to work or study of some sort. He has the reputation of being an accomplished speaker, and ever ready in debate. He is a warm friend, and a most enthusiastic enemy. His family consists of one daughter, a most accomplished young lady, in her eighteenth year, and two sons, aged five and nine years.

Aaron Kimball, banker, Cresco; was born in the city of New York, in 1836, and is the son of Thomas D. and Mary A. Young Kimball. His father was a native of the state of New Jersey, his mother of New York. While quite small, in 1837, his parents removed to Elkhart county, Indiana, where he resided until 1857. Here he was raised upon a farm, going to the usual district school, when the duties of home allowed it. But nature had implanted in his breast an ambition for nobler fields, and he, by assiduous study, fitted himself for and entered Ontario academy, at Ontario, Indiana. The talents developed by the young man, while here, determined his future life, and to fit himself for it, he resolved upon a collegiate education. Entering the Michigan university, at Ann Arbor, he pursued the same course that had gained him so much credit in his academic career, and graduated with honor in the fullness of time. After his college days were ended, and previous to his coming west, he taught school for some little time. Feeling the want of a proper field, on which to display his talents, young Kimball determined upon going west, and accordingly, in 1857, came to Howard county, locating on a farm about one and a half miles from Cresco. Here he continued to reside, until 1864, when he was elected clerk of the courts, and afterwards as member of the board of supervisors of the county. These two positions he held four years to the satisfaction of the people. In 1869, on his retirement from these offices, he removed to Cresco,

and established the banking house of Kimball & Farnsworth, which has enjoyed the continued existence to the present time, merited by the strict integrity and financial ability, with which it is conducted. In 1877 Mr. Kimball was elected to the state senate, from the senatorial district composed of Howard, Chickasaw and Bremer counties. At the first session, at which he was present, he was placed on the most important committees of that body, viz: Ways and means, and retrenchment. The committees have the credit of accomplishing a direct reduction of the state expenses, about \$100,000 per annum. In the second session he was appointed on several other committees, and chairman of committee for the suppression of intemperance, and with several others, succeeded in the passage of the bill for the enactment of the prohibitory amendment to the constitution. Mr. Kimball was the chairman of the state temperance association for the three years past, and is at the present writing in that position. This association organized the temperance work in the state for the amendment, which culminated on June 27, 1882, in the overwhelming majority of 30,000, in favor of the prohibition. Mr. Kimball has been married twice, the first time, in August, 1858, to Miss Irene S. Kelley, of New Bedford, Mass. This lady died in August, 1870, leaving one daughter, Mary A. His second marriage was to Miss Emma W. Laird, of Indianapolis, Ind., and has been blessed by the advent of three children, Lois C., Ruth L., and Alice W. The Kimball family were from the puritan stock of Massachusetts, and of English decent, but on his mothers' side Mr. Kimball can lay claim to part French blood, his maternal grandmother being Miss Julia De Kay, and of that nation.

FOREST CITY TOWNSHIP.

---

L. H. Van Niman, farmer; owns eighty acres in section twenty-two, Forest City township; was born in 1827, in Wayne county, Ohio; lived in Ohio until 1856; engaged the principal part of the time at Farmers Centee, as engineer. In 1856 he came to Iowa, settling where he now resides; he afterwards bought one hundred and forty-eight acres of land, being a fractional quarter, which he sold soon after. He thoroughly improved the eighty; built a good substantial log house, which they still occupy. In the spring of 1857, he was employed by A. W. Rice & Co., in the erection of a saw mill, at Foreston. In the fall of 1879, he went to Lime Springs, and took charge of "Stones hotel," which he conducted until burnt out, September 15, 1880. Three stores, three barns, and a quantity of other property were destroyed. He returned to the farm, where he has remained ever since. He was married May 9, 1852, to Miss Angeline Durham, and they have six

children, Orintha, Virgil K., Ella, Addie, John, and Angeline. He is a member of Howard lodge, No. 214, A. F. and A. M.

P. C. Howe, farmer; was born in 1838, in Kent, England, and came with his parents to the United States, in 1842. They settled in Fairfield county, Ohio, where they farmed until 1851; then came to Iowa, and located a claim of 120 acres, near the Old Mission, in Winnesheik county. In 1856 they sold out, and came to this county, bought 160 acres in Albion township, where they still reside. He enlisted in July, 1863, at Foreston, in the seventh Iowa cavalry, under Capt. O'Brien, and was discharged November 25, 1865, at Davenport, Iowa. Then returned to Albion township, and farmed until 1868. He then came to this township, where he has since resided. He has for some time been connected with Geo. Van Leuven, in the pension business. He has filled the office of justice of the peace, and trustee, several terms, and is at present township clerk, which office he has filled for the last eight years. He is a member of Howard lodge, No. 214, A. F. and A. M. He was married in 1860, at Granger, Minn., to Miss Mellisa Hawkins, and they have five children, Chas. W., Lillian C., Franklyn H., Jessie E. and Phillip S.

James D. Brown, agent for C., M. & St. P. railroad, Lime Springs, was born in Le Clair, Scott county, Iowa, in 1846. His parents came to this county, in 1857, and settled at Vernon Springs. His father is a minister of the Baptist denomination, and took charge of the church then. In 1869 he came to this place, where he has since resided. In 1867 Jas. D. was employed by the railroad company, in the engineering corps, and in 1873 took charge of this station. He lived one year in Owatonna, Minn., where he was engaged as operator; was married in this place, in 1874, to Miss Ella Dye; they have two children, Vinnie, and George. Is a member of A. F. and A. M., A. O. U. W., and I. L. of H.

James McGregor, farmer; owns about 500 acres near Lime Springs; was born in Rothshire, Scotland, in 1822; he farmed and was also engaged in blasting in the granite quarries. In 1849 he

came to the United States, settling in Dodge county, Wis., remaining two years. In 1857 he came to Lime Springs, Iowa, and bought eighty acres of land, improved the same, and since that time has purchased the rest; he now owns something over 500 acres. In 1863 he met with a serious accident, while out gunning, by which he lost his right arm. He was married in Milwaukee, Wis., in 1856, to Miss Rebecca Ross.

Charles Gorst, M. D., Lime Springs, Iowa; was born in Dane county, Wis., in 1853; receiving his preparatory education at Mazo Manie, in that county. In 1876 he entered the medical college, at Keokuk, Iowa, and remained three years, graduating at the close of the session of 1879, when he came to this place and commenced practice; he opened his office over Brown & White's drug store, and established a successful and lucrative practice. In October, 1882, he formed a partnership with Dr. J. W. Read, the only other physician in the town. Dr. G. was married on the 12th day of January, '81, at Black Earth, Dane county, Wis., to Miss Mary E. Dockham.

O. A. Anderberg, proprietor of the billiard parlors and sample rooms, Lime Springs, was born in Sweden, in 1845, and came to the United States in '70, residing in South Carolina for six months, then in Virginia four years. In 1874 he came to this place, and established his present business; owns and occupies a building on Main street; keeps choice brands of native wines, cigars, and beer. Has a well filled bar, and good billiard table; was married in Sweden, in 1868, to Miss Annie Larson, and they have five children, three boys and two girls.

N. Thompson, dealer in groceries, Lime Springs, Iowa; was born in '37, in Norway; came to the United States in the summer of '53, and lived in Chicago for two years, then to Leelenaw county, Mich., working in the wood yards, supplying the steamers on the lake, for fifteen years. In '72 he came to this place and established his present business. He Owns and occupies a building in

the center of town, and carries a large and well assorted stock of staple and fancy groceries. He also owns considerable real estate in this vicinity, 160 acres in this township and county, and eighty acres in Minnesota, across the line, the land all adjoining, and is well improved. He was married in '79, in Chicago, to Miss Oleson.

Hiram P. Marsh was born in Onandaga county, N. Y., March 15, '30; moved to McHenry county, Ill., in '49; he learned the trade of machinist, and worked in Chicago several years; 1856 he came to this place and located; he erected the first dwelling here. In partnership with S. S. Lambert he conducted the first lumber yard in the town; sold out in '76, and conducted a hardware business, in partnership with Joseph Knowlton, two years. He owns considerable valuable real estate in this vicinity. Has been mayor of this city three terms; was married the fall of '60, at this place, to Anna Knowlton; they have one daughter, Dellie.

L. Hurley, farmer, Lime Springs; was born in Wabash county, Indiana, in 1844, and came to Winnesheik county, Iowa, in 1853, settling first at the Old Mission, where he remained one year, then came to this county with his father, who pre-empted 160 acres in Foreston township. With his brother, Robert, he enlisted in the ninth Iowa infantry, company I, September 2, 1861, at Dubuque, under Capt. J. H. Powers, and served in eighteen hard fought battles. His brother met his death at the storming of Vicksburg, and was buried in the same grave with Alonzo Van Leuven, of company H, of the same regiment, and a former citizen of this township. Chas. H. Hurley, father of L. and R., enlisted in company B, seventh Iowa infantry, and died at Galiton Station, Tex. L. H. was discharged September, 1864, at East Point, Ga., and returned to this county. Is a member of the A. F. and A. M., Howard lodge, No. 214.

M. L. McNally, grain dealer; agent for Bassett, Hunting & Co., of McGregor; was born in Richland county, Ohio, in 1855; his parents came to Chickasaw county, Ia., in '58, settling in Utica

township, and were among the pioneers; he was in the grain business at Lawler, for several years, previous to coming to this place, and in '80, came to Lime Springs, and took charge of the above business. They run the Elliot elevator, near the depot, with a capacity of 20,000 bushels. Size 30x32, fitted with an eight horse power engine, and employ two men. He was married in '76, at Lawler to Miss Annie Farrell, and they have two children—Loretta, and Charles.

W. F. Daniels, mayor of Lime Springs, and proprietor of a restaurant and grocery, was born in Canada West, in 1826. His parents moved to Wayne county, Mich., in his childhood, and lived on a farm. In '44 he went to South Bend, Ind., remaining one year, and then spent two years in Beloit, Wis. Thence to Harrison Winnebago county, Ill., and engaged in milling; he erected a saw mill and grist mill, in partnership with his brothers; he sold the mill, and went to Freeport, Ill., and was engaged on railroad work, having a grading contract, on the Ill. Cent'l. R. R.; he afterwards moved to Forreston, Ill., and later to Morrison, Ill., then a new town, and in '56, to this county and state, first settling at Forreston, and building a mill there, which was the first one put in operation, in the county, selling out in '71, he came to this place, and went into the furniture business, and in '73 established his present business. Mr. D. was elected coroner, in '58, and served one term. In March, '82, he was elected mayor of the city, and in the fall following, justice of the peace; he is a member of Howard lodge—A. F. & A. M.; was married in '48, at Harrison, Ill., to Miss Mary Preston and their children are, W. P., now conductor on B., C. R. & N. R. R., also secretary and treasurer of railroad conductors association. Nelse E., conductor on Mexican Central railroad; Harry, conductor on N. P. R. R.; Helen J. and Kate.

A. P. Hewett, proprietor of the Hewett house, also carpenter and builder, Lime Springs; was born in Geauga county, Ohio, in

1830. In '44 his parents moved to Greenlake county, Wis.; he then learned the trade of carriage maker. In '53, he came to Iowa and marked a claim in section 20, this township and county, then newly surveyed, and as yet unorganized; he remained only six weeks, then returned to Wisconsin and two years later came here, and settled and commenced improving the land. He located the farm now owned by George Drake; he only remained one year, the winter being too severe, and the comforts of the west, too scarce to enable him to stand the pressure; he then returned with his family to Wisconsin, and worked at his trade, until '61, then enlisted at Fon du Lac, Wis., in the third Wisconsin regimental band, under Col. Hamilton, afterwards Gen. Hamilton; he was in the service thirteen months, and participated in several engagements; he was discharged at Madison, Wis., August 13, '62, being mustered out on account of physical disability; he then returned to Wisconsin, and worked at his trade, at Kingston, until April, '75, and again came to Iowa, locating in the new town of Lime Springs, and established business as carpenter and builder; he built a residence, at that time and in '79, added to it, completing what is now known as the Hewett house, which is the leading hotel in the city, and a first-class house in every particular. Mr. and Mrs. Hewett, having the pleasant faculty of making all guests comfortable and at home, doing away with the stiffness of hotel life. M. H. carries on an extensive business as carpenter and builder, and many of the best residences in the town and vicinity, and southern Minnesota, are standing monuments of his labor and skill. He is a member in good standing of Howard lodge, No. 214, A. F. & A. M., also I. O. O. F. He was married in January '62, at Kingston, Wis., to Kate Knowlton, and their children are, Frank, Edith, Nellie and Charles. The oldest Frank, is a musician of great notoriety and is now traveling in the old world. He traveled several years with various first-class troupes, and in August, '79, organized a company in Melbourne, Australia, which he called the Hewett musettes, which met with



great success, in Australia, New Zealand and the East Indies, and are now in Africa, filling engagements in the colonies, and expect to reach America during the summer of 1883.

Rev. Richard Isaac, of the Welch Calvinistic Methodist church, Lime Springs, Iowa; was born in Wales, in 1821; and came to the United States in '43; settling first in Trenton, N. Y., working principally at his trade—blacksmithing; he entered the ministry at Utica, N. Y., in '52, and took charge of the church at Collinsville, Lewis county, N. Y., in '57 remaining with that charge eleven years altogether. In '74 he came to Iowa, and settled first at Foreston, where he had charge of the Welch church one year, he now preaches at various places in the neighborhood, Lime Springs, Saratoga and Foreston, in Iowa, and Bristol Grove in Minnesota; he resides one mile east of Lime Springs, where he owns forty acres of fine land, well improved having an elegant residence. He has been twice married, the first in '41, in Wales, wife deceased; second time in '76, at Lime Springs to Mrs Ann Lewis.

S. A. Miller, of W. P. Miller & Son, hardware dealers, and proprietors of the Lime Springs livery; was born in Clinton county, N. Y., March 19, '40. His parents moved to McGregor, Ia., in '48, and settled on government land near that place. In August, '62, he enlisted at Farmersburg, Clinton county, Ia., in the 27th Ia. volunteer infantry, company E., under Capt. Dripps, was in engagements at Corinth, Little Rock, Red River, and Fort Blakely; he was discharged in August '65, and mustered out at Clinton, Ia.; he returned to McGregor and engaged in the grocery business, there for one year. Then came to this place and bought property and established the livery business and in '79, established the hardware business, with his father, W. P. Miller, occupying building on Main street; they carry a large stock of hardware, tinware, stoves, etc. The livery stable is located on Willard street, and is 24x40 with additional stables on sides, it accommodates fourteen horses—they use ten horses, and rigs for livery purposes, and are doing a flourishing business. Mr. Miller has been deputy sheriff,

for several years, and has been city marshal since the town was incorporated, in '76. He was married in '65 at McGregor, to Miss Mary Biffle, and have three children; he is a member of Howard lodge—A. F. & A. M., No. 214.

Henry C. Hawkins, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; was born in Johnson co., Iowa, 1843; his parents moved to Michigan two years later, and returned to Iowa in the fall of 1855, locating in this township, and pre-empted land. Henry C. enlisted September, 1861, at Columbus City, Louisa county, Iowa, in the eleventh Iowa infantry, company C, served three years and nine months, and was discharged in July, 1865. He resides on a farm five miles from the village of Lime Springs; he was married in 1866, at New Oregon, to Miss Howe, and they have six children, four boys and two girls.

P. C. Sanborn, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 160 acres of land in sect. 27, Forest City township; was born in 1825, at Barnestown, Canada East. His parents came to the United States when he was seventeen years of age, and settled in Dodge county, Wis., where he remained twenty-four years. He then came to this county and township, and bought an improved farm, which he sold the following year, and bought the land he now owns, which is one of the finest farms in the township, being thoroughly improved, with a fine residence and extensive barns, good groves set out, and large quantities of stock. He was married, in 1850, in Dodge county, Wis., to Betsey A. White, of the same place; they have six children.

J. B. Williams, blacksmith; business established in 1869; was born in North Wales, in 1844; his parents came to the United States when he was a boy; they settled in Lehigh county, Penn., and resided there four years; then removed to Columbia county, Wis., learning his trade in Cambria, in that county, and remaining there about eighteen years. In 1869 he came to Iowa, located in this town, and established business. His shop is located in the

center of town, employing a competent workman and doing a flourishing business, in shoeing and general repairing; was married in 1868, in Madison, Wis., to Miss Whiting; they have two children.

W. R. Jones, miller; born in North Wales, in 1836; came to the United States with his parents in 1840, and settled first on Long Island, afterwards in New York city, and about 1850 went to Wisconsin, and engaged in farming. In 1866 he moved to Minnesota, and in 1876, to Lime Springs, Iowa. In February, 1880, he formed the present partnership, and conducts the feed store, in connection with the mill, on Main street. Married in 1861, in Wisconsin, to Miss Winifred Jones; they have three children, Levi, Gwylen, and Marianna. Is a member of Howard lodge, No. 214, A. F. and A. M.

H. R. Shumway, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; born in Lewis co., N. Y., in 1840, where he resided until the breaking out of the war, when he enlisted in the fifth New York artillery, company I, and was discharged, at Harpers Ferry, in June, 1865. In the following spring he came to Winnesheik county, Iowa, bought land, sold out and moved to this township, where he has since resided. He owns eighty acres of land near Cresco; was married, in 1864, in New York, to Miss Celia A. McCarty; they have four children, three boys and one girl.

A. E. Marsh, proprietor of the Central house, Lime Springs; born in Elgin, Ill., in 1845. In 1856 his parents came to this county and were among its earliest settlers. In 1868 he established a drug business in the old town of Lime Springs, and in 1872 moved to the new town; he sold out to Brown & White, in February, 1878, and then engaged in the machine business, and in October, 1881, took charge of the Central house, which he has since conducted. It is centrally located, thoroughly fitted, and well patronized. Mr. Marsh was married, in 1872, at Randolph, Wis., to Hattie Stalker; they have two children, E. S., and L. J..

A. M. Van Leuven, attorney at law; was born January 25, 1833, in Schoharie county, N. Y., and came to this county in September, 1858, where he farmed until 1872; then engaged in the general merchandise business in the old town of Lime Springs, in which he continued three years; the store was burglarised one night in September, 1873, to the amount of \$1,200, by some men with two teams; they loaded the goods and decamped; no track ever being obtained of them. He suspended business shortly after; studied law in New York, and was admitted there under Judge Wright, and practiced until coming west. After discontinuing business he opened an office here, and is the only resident attorney in the town. He was married, in 1861, at Lime Springs, to Georgiana Marsh; their children are, Stella, Edwin, Clarence, Helen, and Albert.

White Bros., druggists, Lime Springs; business established January, 1877, by Brown & White. Perry G. White, the senior member of the above firm, was born in Franklin county, N. Y., 1848; his parents came to Iowa, in 1855, settling in this county, and pre-empted land two and a half miles northwest of the present new town of Lime Springs. In 1871 he entered the employ of Read & Van Leuven, druggists, remaining with them until January, 1877; then formed partnership with J. D. and W. C. Brown, in his present business; Mr. W. taking charge of and conducting the same, until September, 1882, when in partnership with his brother, Emory O., they purchased the interest of the Browns. They occupy a room, 22x40 feet, with a ware room attached; carrying a complete line of drugs, paints, oils, stationery, jewelry, watches, and clocks; also deal extensively in musical instruments. Mr. W. is a member of A. O. U. W., A. F. and A. M., and I. L. of H., Lime Springs; was married April, 1877, at this place, to Kate Daniels; they have one son, Harry Clyde.

Emory O. White, the junior member of the above firm, was born in 1857, in this county, and resided on a farm, with his

parents, until he formed present partnership; was married, September 28, 1882, to Nellie Bishop.

Napoleon Bonaparte Moulton, merchant, Lime Springs, (old town), was born in St. Lawrence county, N. Y., 1815; removed with his parents to Grafton county, N. H., remaining one year, and in the spring of 1833, came west, and settled in Indiana, remaining two years. Thence to Henderson county, Ill., then the western frontier, remaining there twelve years. He came across the river, into Iowa, at the time of settling in Illinois, and found it a dense wilderness; Indians plentiful, and no settlement, except at rare intervals, along the Mississippi river. They crossed the river above Muscatine; at that place they found one white man, an Indian trader; they went to Burlington, and found only seven families in what is now a flourishing city. After exploring for some time, they returned to Henderson county, Illinois, where he lived twelve years. In July, 1861, he came to Iowa, settling at this place. At that time there was one hotel, two small stores, grist and saw mill, and blacksmith shop, in the place. In the following September he opened business, with a stock of general merchandise. Bought the stock and building of A. D. C. Knowlton; the building was very small. All goods were hauled from McGregor. He sold out in 1869, remaining out of business three years, and built a residence. Then bought building he now occupies, and reopened business. Carries a complete stock of general merchandise, and enjoys a good trade. He was married in 1837, in Illinois, to Miss Laura M. Brunson, and they have two children, J. N. Moulton, of Oswego, N. Y., and Fannie J.

A. Knowlton, dealer in groceries, Lime Springs; established business May 1882. He was born in Watertown, Wis., 1845; his parents moved the following year to Marquette county, Wis., farming there nine years; thence to this county, in 1855, and was a pioneer settler, his nearest neighbor being ten miles distant. They took up government land, by pre-emption. He enlisted in October,

1861, at this place, in the ninth Iowa volunteer infantry, company H, under Capt. Moore, and was discharged in 1865, at Clinton, Iowa; he was with the Generals Curtis, Grant, and Hooker, and with Sherman in his march to the sea; was in sixty-five engagements; he returned to this place after being discharged, and farmed until 1874, then went in the hardware business for two years, after which time he sold to W. P. Miller & Son. Then went into the agricultural business three years, and after remaining out of business two years, established his present business, on Main street. He carries groceries, exclusively, and enjoys a good business. He is a member of the Howard lodge, No. 214, A. F. and A. M.; was married, in 1868, at this place, to Miss Van Leuven; they have one son, Ralph R.

R. J. Roberts, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 163 acres of land in Forest City township; was born in North Wales, in 1833, and came to the United States in 1843, with parents. They settled first in Lewis county, N. Y., where R. J. was in the mercantile business for several years. In 1868 he came to this county, having purchased the land two years previous. The land is thoroughly improved, and has a fine residence; is one of the finest stock farms in Howard county, and is well stocked. Mr. Roberts is a prominent citizen, and has filled many offices of trust in his township. He was married in December, 1859, to Margaret E. Lewis, also a native of North Wales, who came to the United States at the same time Mr. R. did. They had one child, R. Clinton Roberts, who died in December, 1874, aged fifteen years.

Oscar Chesebro, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 240 acres of land in northeast quarter and north half of southwest quarter section twenty, Forest City township, Howard county; was born in 1830, at Truxton, Courtland county, N. Y.; his parents moved to Kane county, Illinois, in 1836. In 1855 he came to Iowa, and selected a pre-emption of 160 acres, in this township. He since purchased the rest, and opened the first farm in the township;

only four families settling earlier than he; at the time of his settlement there was no town west nearer than LeRoy, Minn. The land is mostly improved, and about fifty acres in young timber. He served as deputy under Sheriff Lowery, during '80 and '81, and has filled many offices in the township. Mr. Chesebro was married, in Kane county, Illinois, in 1853, to Mary Knowlton, and their children are, George, Lelia, Sarah, Emily (deceased), Ida, and Ralph.

James F. Borthwick, farmer and stock raiser, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 320 acres in section ten, all thoroughly improved, and valued at \$25 per acre. Mr. B. was born in Schoharie county, N. Y., in 1829, and was married to Miss Sarah A. Crocker, in 1853; their children are, Fred C., George A., and Frank A. He came to Iowa, and located in Howard county in the spring of 1866.

Denis Conery, farmer, P. O. Howard Center; is the son of William and Mary Conery, and was born in county Limerick, Ireland, in 1850. In 1853 his parents came to America, and located where he now resides. His father died in February, 1879, leaving the widow to the care of her son, with whom she still lives. Mr. C. owns 160 acres of land in Howard Center township.

Thomas Daws, farmer and dairyman, P. O. Davis Corners; is a native of Sussex, England, and was married in 1862, to Sarah Rogers, a native of New York; their children are Sarah J., Rettia L., Fred. C., Frank and Guy. Mr. D. served during the late rebellion as private in company G., forty-sixth Illinois volunteers. He now operates an extensive dairy farm, thoroughly stocked and well fitted for stock and dairy purposes.

John W. Dell, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in New Jersey, in 1854, and came to this county in 1858, with his father, who resides now in Paris township. Mr. Dell owns a farm of eighty acres, valued at \$20 per acre, in Howard Center township, where he now resides.

Wirt. G. Daws, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, in 1858. His parents moved to this county in the

following year; his father served in the northern ranks, during the late rebellion, and died at Houston, Texas, of disease contracted during service. Mr. Davis owns 180 acres in section 25.

Ira Eldridge, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 180 acres in section 36; was born in New Jersey, January 23, 1814; was married to Eliza A. Carleton, in 1840, and removed to Iowa in 1855; he resided in the village of Howard Center, one year, and then moved to the farm, on which he still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge were among the earliest settlers in the township; their children are, Chas. H., Olive C., Mary A., Alice S., Irene E., Elton M., Edward C., and Mattie B., and two sons and one daughter deceased.

George J. Ferrie, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in New York, in 1850, and was married in February, 1876, to Catherine Miller, a native of Pennsylvania; their children are, Alfred J. and Maggie E. He removed to Iowa, locating in this county, in 1868, and now owns eighty acres of land.

Thomas Grellier, farmer, P. O. Howard Center, is a native of England, and immigrated to the United States, in 1846; settled on his present farm, in Howard Center township, in '56, where he owns eighty acres of land.

Leo J. Glass, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 160 acres in section 33, valued at \$20 per acre; all thoroughly improved and fitted for stock purposes. In the fall of '82 he suffered a severe loss by fire, losing seventy-five tons of hay, good stables, a large quantity of agricultural implements, one horse, and a granary with its contents, which were only partly insured. Mr. Glass is a native of Pennsylvania, and was married, in '76, to Mary Ferrie; their children are, Wm. A., and Raymond.

David C. Garver, farmer and justice of the peace, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 160 acres in section 8, all thoroughly improved, and worth \$20 per acre. He is the son of Anthony and Elizabeth Garver, and was married in 1867, to Elizabeth Thurber. He came to Iowa, in '53, and located in Winnesheik county; in '55 he re-



moved to Howard county, where he has since been engaged in farming and stock raising. He served during the late rebellion, in company I, ninth Iowa volunteers, having enlisted in 1861; was promoted to corporal, and served four years; his health being severely impaired during service, he receives a pension from the government. S. and Adaline Thurber, the parents of Mrs. Garver, were among the earliest settlers of this county. Mr. Thurber is now a member of the prominent grocery firm of H. B. & F. B. Thurber, of New York city. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Garver are, Addie E., Eugenia M., Charles T., Sarah J., and David C.

Mrs. Irene G. White, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 160 acres in section 3. Mrs. White is a native of New York, having been born in Erie county, in 1842. She was married, in 1859, to E. A. Galloway, who served during the late rebellion, enlisting in company K, thirty-sixth Wisconsin volunteers; he was promoted to captain, and received his death wounds at Gettysburg, while leading his company. Mrs. White remained a widow, until '70, and was then married to Warren White, who is now interested in the mines of New Mexico. Mrs. W.'s maiden name was Drake, and she was educated at the "Seventh Day Baptist seminary," in Wisconsin; she is lady of fine literary talent, and is a regular correspondent to the Chicago Inter Ocean, Iowa Homestead, Dairy and Farm, of West Liberty, Iowa, and the Howard county Times, of Cresco, Iowa. She also wrote a history of Howard county, in which she displayed good talent, and a thorough acquaintance with the early history, and the general adaptability of the land, geological and agricultural resources of the county. The work was exhibited at the county fair, in the fall of '79, and was awarded the sum of \$5. Mrs. W. has also written a number of poems, which have received deservedly flattering compliments from the press and public.

Eli Woodard, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; was born in the state of New York, in 1825; he was married in '52, to Mary Escoat;

there children are, Joseph W., Bellsora, Jane, Emma, Elizabeth Hannah, and Julia, and one daughter, deceased. In '44 Mr. W. moved his family to Oconomowoc, Wis., where he resided until the fall of '82, when he sold out and moved to Howard county, and purchased land.

Oliver G. Wanless, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 160 acres in section 5, all thoroughly improved, and fitted for stock purposes. Mr. W. was born in Virginia, in 1855; he came to Iowa with his parents in 1856, and to Howard county, in 1874, and purchased, the land he now resides on; he was married to Ora M. Galloway, November 7, 1882. Mr. Wanless is a graduate of the Upper Iowa university, of Fayette.

Patrick Wood, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 240 acres in section 36, all improved. He was born in Ireland, in 1833; was married to Ann McPhillips, in 1845, and two years later they came to the United States, stopping two years in New York, and then moving west to La Fayette county, Wis. In 1870 he removed to Howard county, Iowa, and settled on the land he now owns. His children are, Maggie A., Richard, Frank, Thomas, Joseph, William, James, Julia, and Charles.

Hermann E. Marande, farmer and miller, P. O. Davis Corners; owns 120 acres in section 20, all improved, and valued at \$15 per acre, was born in Prussia, in 1848, and came to the United States in 1868, settling first in Michigan; in 1878 he removed to Iowa, and settled on the land he now owns; was married in 1870, to Augusta Stormar, and their children are, Herman F., Lewis G. and Martha E.; have lost two, Louisa, and Charles.

J. W. Woodard, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 160 acres in sec. 29; was born in Grant county, Wis., in 1858, and is the son of Eli and Mary Woodard. He purchased his farm in the fall of 1882.

Perry<sup>z</sup>A. Wanless, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns 240 acres in section 4, which is thoroughly improved, and valued at \$25 per acre. He was born in Virginia, in 1846; came to Iowa with his parents, in 1856, and to Howard county in 1874; was married to

Cynthia M. Ryal, in July, 1877; their children are Edith and Mary.

Lawrence Shields, farmer, P. O. Lime Springs; owns eighty acres, in section 10; he pre-empted land, in section 15, in this county; in 1857, which he sold, and then purchased the land he now owns. He was married to Bridget Looby, in 1864; their children are, John, Thomas, Annie, Mary, and Lawrence; two children deceased.

William H. Thayer, farmer, P. O. Bonair; owns 160 acres in section 3, which is valued at \$25 per acre. He was born in Illinois in '42, and removed to this county in '56; married Maggie Richards in '68; they have one child living, Lillie E., and one deceased, Bertie L. Mr. Thayer was one of the earliest settlers in this vicinity.

Newell S. Rowlee, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born on the 20th day of March, 1844, in Ohio, and is the son of William and Cornelia Rowlee. He was married in January, 1871, to Nellie C., daughter of Amos and Polly Harris, and a native of Vermont; came to Iowa in October, '54; located first in Winneshek county, and in '71 they removed to Howard county. In '76 he purchased the farm he now owns.

William A. Smith, farmer and stock raiser, P. O. Bonair; owns 213 acres, in section 2 and 3; is a native of Vermont; was born in 1851, and is the son of Asahel and Mary Smith, with whom he now resides. His farm is well improved and stocked, and is valued at \$20 per acre.

Benjamin Offen, farmer and stock raiser, P. O. Bonair; owns 160 acres in section 13, also eighty acres in Albion township; all thoroughly improved and valued at \$25 per acre. Mr. Offen is the son of Benjamin and Mary Offen; he was born in Kent, England, in 1828, and came to this country in 1849; and farmed in the state of New York three years, and in 1852 removed to Illinois, thence, in 1856, to this county. He was married in July, 1854, to Eliza-

beth A. Gray; their children are: Benjamin E., Wilkin E., and Francis G.

Albion M. Parkhurst, farmer and proprietor of hotel, P. O. Howard Center; owns 50 acres in section 24; was born in Franklin county, New York, in 1822; was married in Jefferson county, New York, to Miss C. D. Fulton, in 1846; in 1856 they removed Bremer county, Iowa, and engaged in farming; in the fall of 1861 they removed to Cedar Falls, Iowa, and conducted a hotel, until in the fall of 1865, then went to Osage, Iowa, and embarked in the same business, remaining until '68, in the spring of which year they removed to their present location, where they have since resided. Mr. P. has filled the office of postmaster about fourteen years. Mr. and Mrs. P. have two children, Daniel J., now railroad station agent at Millbank, D. T., and Hattie F., who still resides with her parents.

J. R. Baldwin, miller and manager of the Lime Spring Mills; was born in Logan county, Ohio, in 1852; his parents came to Iowa, and settled near Castalia, in Winneshek county, in '54; they took up government land, under the pre-emption law, and resided there twelve years, then moved to Allamakee county remaining ten years; thence to Osage, Mitchell county, where they still reside; he had worked at milling since he was of age, first at Wearham's mill, on the Yellow river, in Allamakee county, and in '73, came to this place, and commenced work in this mill, which was then owned by D. W. Haven, who sold to H. W. Babcock, in '79. Since '80 he has had charge of the mill and business, Mr. Babcock having other interests to attend to. Mr. Baldwin was married at Preston, Minnesota, in '79, to Elizabeth Gilbert, and their children are Rennie and Jerome.

George M. Van Leuven, farmer, Lime Springs, (old town); was born in Rensselaerville, Albany county, New York, November 7, 1811. His parents moved later to Schoharie county, New York, where they resided until April, '56. The earlier portion of his life

was spent on the farm. In '43 he commenced the study of law, and was admitted to practice in the city of Albany, under Chief Justice Ira Harris, in '48, and remained in practice, there until '56. Then came to Iowa, and located where he now resides. At the time he settled, there was only a log house and a small store, constituting the town of Lime Springs, and only six families in this township; he took a quarter section of land under pre-emption law, situated near the new town of Lime Springs, part of the town being platted thereon. His reasons for living in the village, was to obtain school facilities; his daughter Helen, is said to have taught the first school in the county, in 1856, at this place. The school building was built the following year. The immigration in summer of '56, was very heavy, and there were fifty-six votes cast for John C. Freemont, in this township. The winter of '56 and 7 was very severe; several person being frozen to death. Mr. Van L. has continued the practice of law, until the last few years. He was married in '32, at Conesville, New York, to Lucy A. Ryder, and they have seven children—Albert, George, Henry C., Theodore, F., Homer S., Helen and Alice.

George M. Van Leuven, Jr., druggists, also United States military and naval claim attorney and solicitor of patents, Lime Springs; was born in Conesville, Schoharie county, N. Y., '42. His parents came to this county, in the spring of '56 and took up government land, and were among the pioneer settlers. In April '61, he enlisted at Decorah, Iowa, under Capt. George R. Willett, in company D, third Iowa volunteer infantry, and served until November 2, '65, when he was discharged at Louisville, Kentucky; he was in several of the important engagements of the rebellion, among them, Shiloh, Corinth, Jackson and Vicksburg, Mississippi. He returned to this place, and entered the store of H. Lick, dry goods, merchant for whom he clerked until '69, when in partnership with Dr. Read, he bought the drug business of Mr. Robinson, and conducted the business under the firm name of Read & Van

Leuven. Dr. Read sold his interest to Mr. Raymond, in '76, and the business continued under that management until April '80, since which time Mr. Van Leuven has been sole proprietor. The store is 20x80 feet and is well stocked, and is doing an extensive business. Mr. Van L. is assisted by three competent clerks, one being a practical jeweler, then being a well fitted jewelry and watch department in connection. Mr. L. is operating a very successful pension agency, which he established in '65, and is credited with being the most successful pension agent in the state as testimonials which he has received, from the best of authority, would go to prove. References, Hons. Wm. B. Allison, U. S. senator; Thos. Updegraff, N. C. Deering, C. C. Carpenter, members of congress; John McHugh, S. S. Lambert, and Kimball & Farnsworth; he is also W. M. of Howard lodge—A. F. & A. M., and has been for eight years. He was married January 22, '74, at Dubuque, Iowa, to Miss Georgia Wood; they have two children—Kittie and Charles P.

Thomas Gates, stock dealer, Lime Springs; was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, in '34, his parents removed to Lake county, Illinois, in '37, and farmed there until '60. Then went to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and located a claim of 160 acres, from the government. Mr. Gates came to Lime Springs in '76, and dealt in agricultural implements three years, and then commenced dealing in stock. He is the only regular shipper from this point, and handles from 1,000 to 1,500 head of cattle, besides hogs, per year. He stills owns 250 acres of good farm land in Minnesota. He served, during the late rebellion in the fourth Minnesota infantry volunteers enlisted in 1864, at Rochester, Minnesota, under Capt. Beard, and served to the close of the war; was in engagements at Altoona Pass and Savanah, Georgia, besides many other battles. He was discharged in 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky. Has filled the office of councilman, one year in the city, also constable one term. Is a member of the following societies: A.

F. & A. M., Howard lodge, No. 214, and A. O. U. W., both of this place. Married Miss M. H. Munger, in '73, at Lime Springs, and they have three children, Walter, Fred and Minnie.

C. C. Hewett; justice of the peace, Lime Springs; was born in Geauga county, Ohio, 1824. In '43 he moved to Kane county, Illinois, and engaged in farming, and then moved to Marquette county, Wisconsin, where he remained until '54; he then went to Elgin, Illinois, remaining there about six months, and in May '55, came to this county, and pre-empted 160 acres land, and farmed for twelve years, and then moved to the town of Lime Springs, and established himself in the hardware business, which he conducted six years; he sold his interests to C. P. Nash, in '76, having in two years previously formed a partnership with this gentleman. He was elected justice of the peace, in '68, which office he has filled ever since. Also served one term as member of the board of supervisors. And one year as mayor of the city of Lime Springs; a strong republican. Is also president of the Lime Springs manufacturing company, incorporated in '73; was married December 25, '46, in Kane county Illinois, to Miss Cheesbro, and they have four children—Mary Eellen, Clara P., Hattie L. and Charles P.

M. M. Marsh, farmer, owns 190 acres of land, Forest City township, P. O. Lime Springs; he is one of the pioneers of Howard county; and was born in 1813, in Onondaga county, New York. In '36 he removed to Kane county Illinois, where he farmed until '56, in the fall of which year, he came to this state, settling in Forest City township. He pre-empted 160 of land, which he afterwards sold, and purchased the land he now owns. In '57 he commenced the erection of the stone flouring mills, at the old town of Lime Springs, which he ran for several years, and was the third mill built in the county, the one at Vernon Springs being the oldest, and the Foreston mill, second. He sold to George R.

Drake & Co. Mr. Mash was elected justice of the peace in '57, and has filled the office many times since, and at the present time, is filling the same office. He resides in the old town of Lime Springs, where he has a fine stone residence; was married in New York, in 1836 to Miss Mason, and their children are, Eugene and Georgiana.

Georgia R. Drake, farmer, Forest City township; born in Milton, Vermont, December, 1831; came to Iowa, in '67, visiting in Clayton county, one year, then came to Howard county, locating at the old town of Lime Springs, and purchased the stone flouring mills, in partnership with John M. White, of Clayton county, who sold later to Lyman Drake. The business was conducted by the Drake Bros., until '67, they then sold to D. W. Havens, taking land in part payment. Mr. Drake now owns eighty acres of fine land, well improved, and within a short distance of the railroad; the farm is thoroughly fitted for stock purposes. Mr. D. was married in '71, at Lime Springs, to Nellie Craig, and they have three children—Chauncey C., Mary Francis and Clara E.

William Halsveg, farmer, P. O. Davies Corners; owns eighty acres of land, in section 30; and is a native of Germany, and settled in this township in 1877; was married to Matilda Muller, January 15, '56, and their children are, Minnie, Ameal W., John and Lizzie. Mr. H. is a baker by trade, and followed the business ten years, in Germany. His land is valued at \$20.00 per acre, and is well improved.

Thomas Kelly, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 400 acres in section 35; was born in the city of Waterford, Ireland, in October, 1835, and was married to Letitia Woods, also a native of Ireland, in February, '63. He immigrated to America in '52; spending three years in Wisconsin, and then six years in California; after which he came to Howard county, and settled on the farm he now resides on, which is well improved, and thoroughly fitted for stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. K's. family consist of five children, John F., Michael J., Thomas R., William and Margaret E.



John Licktieg, farmer and stock raiser, P. O. Bonair; owns 160 acres of land in section 13; was born in Rhein Phalz, Germany, and is the son of Joseph and Barbara Licktieg; he married Barbara Dotsler in '76.

Nelson Lathrop, farmer, P. O. Howard Center; owns 240 acres in section 27; was born in Maine, in 1819, and moved west, locating in Howard county, on his present farm, in 1869. Mr. Nelson was married to his first wife, Angeline Bradley, in '41, by whom he had two children, George and James; Mrs. Nelson died, and he was again married in November, '54, to Jane C. Williams, and their children are, Lille E., Will N., Lettie S. and Loyd E., one daughter Julia G. (deceased).

Joseph Milward, farmer, P. O. Howard Center; was born in Worcestershire, Eng., 1821; was married to Elizabeth O. Chapman, also a native of England; their children are, William C., Joseph C. and Edward; one daughter, Mary J. (deceased). Mr. M. owns eighty acres of land, in section 34.

John S. Mackay, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 300 acres in section 34; was born in Canada in February, 1835, and was married in '63, to Elizabeth Ross, a native of Scotland, their children are, Lexy and William. Mr. M. is an extensive farmer, and has thoroughly improved his land.

John G. Miller, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns eighty acres in section 36; was born in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, in 1812, and was married to Margaret Ferrel in '38. She died of consumption in '68, leaving five children—Francis A., Alfred, Celestine, Henry, Marcellus and Catherine; also two sons (deceased,) John and Thomas.

Katharine Milz, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 280 acres, of land in section 26; was born in the city of Colm, Germany, in 1832, and was married to John Milz of the same place, in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Miltz, immigrated to America, in '54; they were engaged in mercantile business in Cresco, for eleven years, they then removed to the farm; their children are, Maggie, Henry J., Barbara M. L.,

Willie, John, Charles and Mary A., and one daughter deceased

Harvey H. Wells, farmer, Lime Springs; owns 320 acres in section 21, Forest City township; was born in Washington county, N. Y. in 1835; his parents moved to Fon du Lac, Wis., about 1845, living there, and in Marquette county, Wis., until the fall of 1854; he then came to Iowa, settling at this place; his parents coming soon after, and settled on a claim which he selected, being too young himself, at that time, to hold it. When of age he also took a claim, which he sold, now owning the original homestead. He was one of the first actual settlers, and endured all the hardships of pioneer life. He has thoroughly improved the farm, having a good residence thereon, and thoroughly stocked with a good grade of cattle, sheep etc., also having a fine lot of horses, Normans and Clydes; he is one of the most extensive farmers and stock raisers in the county, and employs several hands during the working season; he is deservedly popular and has filled many offices in the township; was married in 1856, in Marquette county, Wis., to Miss Levina A. Doolittle.

George Tibbals, farmer, Lime Springs, owns 140 acres of land, born June 1820, in Massachusetts. His parents moved in his childhood to New Haven county, Conn., and in 1840, to Green county, N. Y., where they farmed until 1859, then he purchased this place, and moved his family the following year. The land is situated in sections 16 and 17, and is improved; 120 being under plow. Good buildings, etc., and thoroughly fitted for stock. He was married in 1845, in New York to Miss Rachael Burhit, and their children are, George L., Edward Nelson, Elmer E., Lucinda, Caroline and Millie.

J. W. Owens, barber, and dealer in groceries, Lime Springs; born in Dodgeville, Wis., 1853; came to this place in August, 1878, following trade of shoe maker, until June, 1882, and since that time has conducted business as above. Is located on Main street, and carries a complete line of fancy and staple groceries, tobacco, and cigars. He also conducts a well fitted barber shop; was mar-

ried, August '77, at Newton, Jasper county, Ia., to Miss Rhoda Allen, and they have two children, Roy and Glen.

C. P. Nash and Bro., dealers in hardware, tinware, etc., and agricultural impliments, Lime Springs. C. P. Nash, the senior member of the above firm, first entered the hardware business in 1870, in the employ of C. C. Hewett, with whom he formed a partnership four years later. The firm of Hewett & Nash existed two years, Hewett selling to A. R. Nash, the junior member of the present firm, who are both enterprising young men, energetic, and consequently successful. They own and occupy, a building 22x92, two stories; the upper floor, being the lodge room of the masonic order; the lower is used as a store, which is well fitted, and filled with a complete stock of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, tinware, etc., well equipped tin shop, is also in connection which is managed by A. R. Nash, who is a practical tinner. It is the largest hardware store in the city and probably in the county. They also do an extensive business in agricultural impliments, using a shed 24x60 feet for that purpose. C. P. Nash, is a member of A. F. A. M., I. L. of H. and A. O. U. W. A. R. Nash is also a member of I. L. of H.



### OAKDALE TOWNSHIP.

---

S. L. Thomson, farmer, P. O. LeRoy, Minnesota; owns eighty-four acres of land in section 15, valued at \$25.00 per acre; was born in Scotland, in '41; and is the second son of William and Ann L. Thomson; when he was quite young his parents left Scotland and came to the U. S., settling in Racine county, Wisconsin; after a short stay there they removed to Beloit, Rock county, where they continued to reside until '56, when they came to Iowa, and located at Lime Springs, this county, but in '70 they settled in Oakdale township, where they now reside. He was married in '66 to Martha White, a native of Vermont, and they have five children, Gertie L., Ralph L., Frank E., Fred H., twins, and Allie A. Mr. Thomson was elected to the office of sheriff of Howard county, in '75, and was reelected in '77. He enlisted in '62, in the thirty-eighth Iowa volunteer, infantry, under Col. Hughes, and participated in the siege of Vicksburg, and at Fort Morgan, Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, and was honorably discharged at Huston, Texas, in September, '65.

Gardiner G. How, farmer, P. O. LeRoy, Minnesota; owns 130 acres of land in section 9, valued at \$40.00 per acre; was born in New Hampshire in 1809, and is the second son of Phinneas and Gemima How; when he was six years old he left New Hampshire, with his parents and located in the state of Maine, where they lived three years, then moved to New York, where they remained twenty-six years. After this he resided for a time in Illinois and Wisconsin, but finally in '55 settled in Howard county, Ia., where he resides at the present writing; was married in '38, to Laurena Rathburn, a native of New York, and their children are, Edmund D. and Sarah L. "Mr. H. built the first log house in Oakdale township, and the first school was taught in his house.

E. D. How, P. O. Leroy Minn.; was born in the state of New York, in 1842; is the only son of Gardiner F. and Laurena How; when he was one and a half years of age, his parents left New York, and came west to Illinois, and after a brief stay in Marengo, he removed to Wisconsin, and stayed there four years, then went to Belvidere, Ill., and lived there, and at Maringo, several years. But in 1855, he removed to Howard county, Iowa, and stayed here till 1878, when he went to Dakota, where he remained till '82. He then returned to Oakdale township and is living on the old homestead at present; was married in 1866, to Ann L. Thomson, a native of Wisconsin, and has six children, Carrie E., Anna L., Joy G., Estella U., Charles W. and Mable S.

F. Lincoln, farmer, P. O. LeRoy Minn., owns 120 acres; of land in sections 11 and 12 ~~valued~~ at \$25.00 per acre; was born in Rutland county, Vermont, in 1820, and is the second son of V. B. and Phoebe Lincoln; when he was twenty-four years of age he left Vermont, and went to Wisconsin, where he lived ten years, after which he removed to Howard county, Iowa, and has resided there since; was married in 1843, to Sybel R. Brown, a native of Vermont, and they have four children, Darlin B., Henry B., Elizabeth E. and Lettie. Mr. L. has held the office of justice of the

piece for two terms, and that of township assessor for two terms, and has traveled for an insurance company for six years.

H. H. Bither, farmer P. O. LeRoy, Minn.; owns 197½ acres of land in section 16, valued at \$25.00 per acre; was born in 1836 in the state of Maine, and is the ninth son of Benjamin and Anna Bither. At the age of twenty, the subject of this sketch left Maine and went to Wisconsin, but only remained there six months, when he removed to Elk River Minn., and lived there until 1870, when he came to Howard county, Iowa, and has been a resident of this county ever since. He was married in 1861, to Safrona Felch, a native of Maine, and they had three children, Edwin, Lucy and Willie. Mr. Bither lost his wife in 1870, and was married again in 1871, to Harriett Felch. He has been trustee and township treasurer. Mr. B. and his wife are both members of the Baptist church.



### NEW OREGON.

---

Jacob Wollstein, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 430, acres of land in section twenty-three, valued at twenty-five dollars per acre; was born in Germany in 1827; is the third son of Peter and Catherine Wollstein. He left Germany in '54, and came to America, and settled in Howard county, Iowa. He was married in '57, to Minnie Daubersmidt, of Germany, and they have five children, Fred, Jacob, William, Minnie and Emma. He has held the offices of school director and road supervisor.

T. C. Sovereign, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 191 acres of land in section 4, valued at \$40 per acre; was born in Canada West, in '29, and is the 2d son of R. and Elizabeth Sovereign; he left Canada with his parents in '44, and came to the United States, and settled in Illinois; he remained there six years; thence to Indiana, where he stopped two years; thence to Clayton county, Iowa, stayed only six months, and from there removed to Grant county, Wisconsin. In '57 he went to Missouri, where he stayed but four

months, and then commenced traveling, through Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Indian territory, Oregon, California and New Mexico; he went from New Mexico to San Pedro, stayed there nine months; then to San Francisco, where he stayed until '64, when he took a steamer for New York city. After a short stay in New York, he went to Elgin, Illinois; stayed there a few weeks, and then went to Fort Larime, Wyoming territory. In the fall of '65, he came to Howard county, Iowa, and settled; was married in '50, to Ruby Mitchell a native of New York, their children are Emeline and James R. Mr. Sovereign lost his wife in '57, but was married a second time in '65, to Harriett Mitchell a native of New York state, and by his second marriage has five children, Ruby H., Darius M., Carrie C., Rosey and Warren C.

F. Shafer, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 240 acres of land in sec. 10, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Germany in '34, and is the 2d son of Joseph and Mary A. Shafer, and left Germany in '54, came to America, and settled in Illinois, remaining only one month, then he came to New Oregon township, Howard county, Iowa. He was married in '65, to Barbara Fye, a native of Pennsylvania, they have nine children, Frank A., Will, Herman, Peter, Johnny, Susanna, Barbara, Mary and Gustie C.

J. T. Pecinovsky, farmer, P. O. Protivine; owns 550 acres of land in section 12, valued at \$25 per acre; was born in Davenport in 1858; he is the eldest son of Joseph and Rosella Pecinovsky, he left Davenport, with his parents, in '62, and came to Howard county; was married in '80, to Theresa Mondre, a native of Bohemia, and has one child, Rosella; he has held a commission as notary public for the past three years, and has been postmaster of Protivine, for two and one-half years.

Thomas Novak, farmer, P. O. Protivine; owns 250 acres of land in section 4, valued at \$25 per acre; was born in Bohemia, in '45, and is the third son of John and Mary Novak, who left Bohemia,



in '52, and came to America, settling in Winnesheik county, Iowa; remaining then until '75, when he moved to Howard county; was married in '65, to Saphronia Phillips, a native of Bohemia, and has six children—Louis, Lizzie, Nellie, Jennie, Mamie and Saphronia.

John Miller, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 120 acres of land, in section 24; valued at \$30 per acre; was born in New York state, in 1851, and is the fourth son of John and Magdalone Miller; left New York in '64, and came to Iowa, settled in Howard county; was married in '77, to Mary A. Hauber, a native of New York state, and they have have three children, George, Peter and Maggie E.

J. G. Hess farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 120 acres of land in section 11, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Switzerland in 1820, is the eldest son of Jacob and Elizabeth Hess; he left Switzerland in '55, and came to America, and settled in Ohio, where he remained seven years; thence to Indiana and stayed there two years; thence to Howard county; was married in '45 to Elizabeth Christen, a native of Switzerland; their children are, Charles Sophia, Fred, Albert, John, Frank and Edwin.

N. S. Durgin, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 95 acres of land, in section 24, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in New Hampshire, in 1838, and is the fourth son of Nathan and Matilda Durgin. They left New Hampshire, in '72, and came to Iowa, and settled in Howard county; he was married in '60, to Lucy B. Bliss, a native of Vermont; he has held the office of justice of the peace four years; Mr. D. enlisted in '62 in company D, fifth New Hampshire infantry, and participated in twenty-six engagements. At the battle of Cold Harbor his regiment, consisting of 540 men, after a battle of seven minutes, came out 239 short of that number. He was discharged at Manchester, New Hampshire, in July, 1865. •

S. A. Converse, farmer, section 15, P. O. Cresco; owns 900 acres of land valued at \$25.00 per acre. He was born in New Hampshire, in 1843, and is the oldest son of Willard and Hannah Converse. They left New Hampshire in 1848, and went to Wisconsin, and settled near Janesville, where they remained until '56, when they came to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where, lived until '80, when he removed to New Oregon township, this county. In '67 he was married to Ellen Munson, a native of Norway, they have five children, Abbie, J., Willard L., Myron B., Charles C. and Clara M. Mr. C. has held the office of township trustee one term; he is an extensive stock raiser, owning at the present writing, 110 head of fine graded and blooded cattle, also 135 head of sheep.

John Blackburn, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 265 acres of land in section 23, valued at \$15.00 per acre; was born in England, in 1836, and is the fifth son of Thomas and Mary Blackburn. He left England, with his parents, in '42; their first settlement was at Racine, Wisconsin, where they remained one year, then next went to Dane county, Wisconsin, where they sojourned until '55, when the subject of this sketch came to Howard county, Iowa, where he has resided ever since. Mr. B. was married in '67, to Maria Kellow, a native of England, and they have six children—Charles R., William R., John, Frank Newt. A. and Ida M. Mr. Blackburn has held the office of justice of the peace for six years. He enlisted in company E, seventh Minnesota volunteer infantry, in '62, and was sent to northwestern Minnesota, under Col. Marshall, and took part in the Indian troubles, which then existed; in '63 he was sent to Dakota, under Gen. Sibley, and in October of the same year was sent to the south to help subdue the rebellion. He took part in several engagements, and was finally discharged at Ft. Snelling, Minn., August, '65.

M. Booth, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 259 acres of land in section 29, valued at \$20.00 per acre. Mr. Booth was born in Eng-

land in 1828, and is the second son of Thomas and Celia Booth, who left England in '28 coming to America, and locating first in the state of New York, where they remained thirteen years; thence to Pennsylvania, where they stopped fifteen years, from there they came to New Oregon township, Howard county, Iowa. He was married in '41 to Louisa Johnson, a native of New York state, and their children are, Isaac J., Charles E., Mary A., John W., Carrie A., Emma M., Hattie A., Henry M., Ella L., Alice S., Frank M. and Fred C.



### CHESTER TOWNSHIP.

---

George M. Plummer, farmer, section 28, P. O. Chester; was born in McHenry county, Illinois, where he remained until six years of age, when he moved to Sauk county, Wisconsin, remaining ten years, and thence to Fillmore county Minnesota, remaining there fifteen years, thence to present place of residence. He owns 160 acres of land, 120 of which are under cultivation. The farm is stocked with horses, hogs and cattle. He enlisted during the late war and served during '54-5 and 6; is a member of good templars lodge, No. 175, "Star of the west; was married to Jennie Chrystal, in '73, and has four children, namely, Mable, Herbert, George and Laura.

A. G. Hubbard, farmer, P. O. Chester; owns 120 acres of land in section 8, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Madison county, New York, in 1830; is the fifth son of J. W. and Electa Hubbard; when he was twenty-one years old he left New York, and came

west, to Columbia county, Wisconsin, living there but two years, when he immigrated to Howard county, Iowa, and settled on the farm where he now resides. He was married in '57 to Miss Frances M. Eaton, a native of Massachusetts; has two children, Fred E. and Fanny E. He was elected a member of the board of supervisors, in October, '75, and has held the office since and is now serving his third term, was elected township treasurer in '67, and has held that office since.

Joseph Cray, farmer, section 27, P. O. Lime Springs; was born in England in 1825, and went to Canada, when twenty years of age, remaining there eleven years, and then moved to present place of residence. He owns 850 acres of land, 600 of which are under cultivation; has four teams, and employs two men. The farm is stocked extensively with graded cattle and hogs, he being one of the largest stock raisers in the county. His land is scattered through Chester and Oakdale townships; was married in '45 to Matilda Combes, and has nine children, namely, Rhoda, Mary, George, John, Rosa, William, Eliza, Albert and Romeo.

George E. Loomis, farmer, section 9, Chester township; was born in Washington county, Vermont, in 1828, remained there twenty-four years, then moved to LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, where he lived sixteen years, thence to present place of residence, known as the Kingslee farm. The farm consists of 190 acres of cultivated land, and forty acres of timber. It is finely stocked with cattle and sheep, the latter being some of the best in the county; was married in Washington county, Vermont, to Elbira Cram, in '51.

L. E. Eaton, farmer, P. O. Chester; owns a fine farm in section 8; was born in Warren county, Pennsylvania, in 1852, remained there until four years of age, then moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he lived one year, thence to Columbia county, where he lived two years, then to present place of residence. His father

located the farm, and with the aid of his two sons, improved the farm until 1862, when he died.

A. G. Blair, postmaster, Chester, Howard county; was born in Kennebec county, Maine, in 1832, remaining there until the age of twenty-two, when he moved to Juneau county, Wisconsin; remaining there sixteen years, thence to present place of business, where he keeps a general grocery store, and has a large trade. He was married in Juneau county, Wisconsin, to Henriette E. Smith, in 1849; and has one child, Harry. Mr. B. served in the tenth battery, Wisconsin volunteers, during '61-2.



### PARIS TOWNSHIP.

---

Mrs. Esther P. Merry, P. O. Cresco; widow of the late Hiram Merry; owns 160 acres in section 19, valued at \$35 per acre. She is a native of New Hampshire, and her maiden name, was Willey, she was married to Mr. Merry in '38, he died in '78, leaving her three children living, namely George W., Emma J. and Edwin. Mr. and Mrs. Merry were among the earliest settlers of the county. The farm is conducted by her oldest son George W., who also owns 240 acres of land, in Howard township, and 160 acres in Dakota, and is also engaged in stock shipping, at Milbank D. T.

John Wessel, farmer, P. O. Cresco; was born in Germany, in 1823; and is the oldest son of John and Mary Wessel, and came to America, in '53; he settled first in Ohio, then moved to Wisconsin, and in '70 to Howard county, Iowa; he owns 320 acres of land in section 16 and 20. He was married in '53 to Mary Gream, and they have seven children.

Samuel Walters, farmer, section 32; was born in Pennsylvania, in 1834, and is the second son of John and Betsey Walters; lived in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, previous to coming to Howard county, Iowa, which he did in 1882. Mr. Walters was married to Marrietta Rollins in '57, their children are, Betsey A., Earnest, Samuel, Nettie V., Charles G., John E., Edith, Josie and Mary. He enlisted in the forty-sixth Iowa infantry volunteers in '64, and was discharged the following year; he participated in battles at Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely and Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

George W. Holster, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 480 acres of land, valued at \$25 per acre, also proprietor of the Paris creamery; he was born in Connecticut, in '25, where he resided until twenty-four years of age, then went to California, remaining but a short time, returned to Connecticut, a year later, he went to Rockton, Illinois, where he remained five years, being one of the proprietors of the paper mill of that place. He then came to Howard county, Iowa; was married in '56 to Miss Elizabeth W. Goldy, and has two children, May G. and Charles H.

John Dell, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 160 acres in section 1; is a native of New Jersey, and is the fifth son of Thomas and Mary Dell. He came to Howard county, Iowa, in '57; was married in '41, to Rachael Cole, their children are, Adeline, George, Elmer A. Margaret and John W.

E. I. Isbell, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 280 acres of land in section 10 and 11, valued at \$24 per acre; was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1828. His parents removed to Ohio in '31, remaining until '49, then stopped a short time in Wisconsin, New York and Michigan, they then came to Iowa, settling first in Tama county, where he remained ten years, then to Howard county, where he still resides. He was married in '58, to Isabel Brock, their children are Alice M., William, Arthur and Mary L.



SARATOGA TOWNSHIP.

---

Edgar Groat, farmer, P. O. Saratoga; owns 160 acres in section 21, all improved, and valued at \$15.00 per acre. He is the son of Jesse and Elizabeth Groat; was born March 1830 in Canada; he removed to United States, settling in Wisconsin, when he was engaged in farming until 1866, he then came to Iowa, locating in Jones county, where he remained until 1877, then came to Howard county, and purchased the farm he now owns. He was married on the 28th., day of March, 1833, in Canada, to Almira Still, and their children are, Wesley E., Delitt A., and Albert L.

William Henning farmer, P. O. Davis Corners; was born in Germany, in 1826, and was married to Miss R. Arnst, in Germany, in 1857; they came to the United States in 1869, and settled in Howard county. Their children are, Henry, August, Mamie, William, Fred, Lanie, Harman, Katie, Arthur, and Charles.

Tobias Weislock, farmer, P. O. Saratoga; owns 160 acres in section 32 and 33, which is improved, and valued at \$15.00 per acre;

Mr. W. is the son of Sextes and Catherine Weislock, and was born in Germany, in 1832, and came to the United States in 1857, and to Howard county, in 1870, when he purchased the land he now owns; was married to Mary Macky, in 1858 and their children are, Anna, George W., Michael J., Christian, Emelia, Charles P., Harman A., Louis and Theodore H.

Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, proprietor of hotel, and postmistress, Saratoga; owns 160 acres in section, 20; Mrs. Miller, is a native of Columbia county, N. Y., and is the relict of the late Albert Miller, to whom she was married, in July, 1856, he died on the 30th of July, 1872, leaving the widow and three children, Estella, Delia and Minnie L; one child, Edgar W., died at the age of eight and a half months. Mr. and Mrs. Miller came to Iowa in 1856, and were among the early settlers. Mr. Miller was a much respected and influential citizen.

Newton McKay, stock and dairy farmer, P. O. Saratoga; owns 100 acres in section 22. He was born in Indiana in 1846, and was married to Mary E. Shaffer, in September 1875, and they have one child, Anna B.



### ALBION TOWNSHIP.

---

John Bigalk, farmer, P. O. Florenceville; owns 320 acres in section 14, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Germany, in 1817, and is the son of Peter and Louisa Bigalk. He came to America in 1857, and settled in Wisconsin, and after residing there thirteen years, came to this county. He served three years in the military service of Germany, in a cavalry regiment; was married in 1848, to Mary F. Greenwald, a native of Germany, and their children are, Fred, Caroline, William, Mary, Ammel, Mena, Elvena, Ida, and John.

C. B. Ashley, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 160 acres, in section 35, valued at \$30.00 per acre; was born in the state of New York, in 1841; he is the second son of C. C. and Helen Ashley who removed to Wisconsin, when he was fifteen years of age; after a residence there of two years, came to Iowa, settling where they now reside. Mr. Ashley has filled the offices of justice of the peace, town clerk and trustee. He served during the late rebellion,

in the ninth Iowa infantry volunteers; was married in 1872, to Immogene Barber, a native of New York; their children are, Helen E., Silva B. Carlos C., William R. and one in infancy.

J. E. Wells, farmer, P. O. Cresco; owns 160 acres of land in section 26, valued at \$35.00 per acre; was born in Vermont, in 1837, and is the second son of Jonathan and Prudence Wells. When eighteen years of age he left Vermont, and coming west settled in Clayton county, Iowa; remaining there until 1865, where he removed to Howard county; has held the offices of township trustee and school director; was married in 1861 to Mary Burgis, a native of Michigan, has two children, Charley A. and William J.

P. I. DeLange, farmer, section 33, P. O. Cresco; owns 310 acres of land, valued at 35 per acre; was born in Holland, in 1832; is the second son of Ambrose and Isabella DeLange. In 1858 he came to America, and his first location was in Milwaukee, where he remained but a short time, and was afterward employed in traveling through the south; he then returned to Milwaukee where he remained a few months, and thence to California; from there he went to the Cariboo mines, British Columbia, returning in a short time to San Francisco, where he remained until 1863, thence he went to the Nevada mines; four years later he went back to Wisconsin, and finally settled on his present farm in 1868; was married, in July, 1868, to Mary E. Geuth, a native of Pennsylvania; they have four children, Isabella M., Mary E. Frederick G. and Pauline A. Mr. D. has held different township offices, and is treasurer of the school board at the present time.

John Bronner, farmer, section 16, P. O. Florenceville; owns 160 acres of land, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Germany, in 1837, is the second son of Andrew and Mary Bronner. When he was eighteen years of age he came to America, and settled in this county; he was married to Mary Dempewolf, and they have eleven children, Sam, Dan, Frank, Caroline, Mary, Lizzie, Katie, Annie,

Crole, Edward and Andrew A. Mr. B. and wife, are members of the M. E. church.

James Oakley, farmer, sections 11 and 15, P. O. Florenceville; owns 880 acres of land, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Westchester county, N. Y., in 1827, and is the fifth son of Jacob and Susan Oakley. When he was twenty-two years of age he went to New York city, and was in charge of a ware house for a period of six years. In 1855 he went to Kane county, Ill., remaining a short time, and in 1856, he came to Howard county. In 1874 Mr Oakley was elected as a member of the board of supervisors, and has been chairman of the same since that time. He was married in 1856 to Mary A. Baird, a native of Schoharie county, N. Y.

Roger H. Owen, farmer, section 17, P. O. Lime Springs, owns 240 acres of land, valued at \$30 per acre; was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, in 1856, and is the second son of David and Jane Owen. He came to Howard county in 1878, and located on the farm he now owns; was married in 1880 to Nellie H. Roberts, they have one child, Edith J. Mr. O. has been town clerk four years, school director three years, and is a member of the Calvinistic church.

John F. Dempewolf, farmer, section 17, P. O. Florenceville; owns 110 acres of land, valued at \$35 per acre; was born in Canada, in 1850, and is the eldest son of Frederick and Gertina Dempewolf. When he was seven years of age his parents came to this county, and he has been a resident ever since. He was married in 1874, to Mena Walter, a native of Germany, and they have two children, Herman B. and Anna M. They are members of the Evangelical association.

### JAMESTOWN TOWNSHIP.

---

Thos McCook, farmer, section 30, P. O. Riceville; owns 630 acres of land, valued at \$20 per acre; was born in County Derry, Ireland, in 1828, is the third son of Thomas and Hannah McCook. When of age he came to the United States, locating in Philadelphia; in 1856 he came to this county; was married in 1849 to Euphema Brown, and they have seven children, Thomas J., John, Bessie, Mathew, Edward, Robert, Nelson and James. Mr. McCook has been justice of the peace two terms, and one term on the county board of supervisors.

C. D. Cutting, farmer, section 29, P. O. Riceville; owns 360 acres of land, valued at \$20 per acre; was born in New Hampshire in 1838, is the fourth son of Abijah and Permelia Cutting, when twenty years of age he came to Scott county, Iowa, remaining one year; in 1855 he came to this county; was married in 1865, to

Mary St. John, of New York, she died in 1871. They had one child, William C.; in 1872 he married again to Annie Bourne, a native of Massachusetts, they have three children, Frankie H., Charles B. and Theodore A. Mr. C. has been town trustee five years. He and wife are both members of the Congregational church.



### MISCELLANEOUS BIOGRAPHIES.

---

Isaac Gregory, produce and provision merchant P. O. Cresco; was born in Windsor county, Vermont, 1814, and is the third son of Amasa and Lydia Gregory. In '52 he located at Stoughton, Wisconsin, and was engaged in the produce business until '66, when he came to Cresco, and established business; he has been mayor of the city four years, and councilman a number of years. He was married to Lodena Woodward, a native of Vermont, she died in '64, leaving two children, Herbert M. and Henry-W. He afterwards married Annie Burdick, a native of New York, and they have one child—Maurice C.

John Jackson, Sr., Cresco; was born in Ireland, March, 1813, is the second of son Robert and Elizabeth Jackson; when he was twenty-four years of age, he left Ireland, and came to America, settling in Canada, where he stayed five years, then came to the



United States, and spent one year in the south, then went back to Canada, and remaining seven years, afterwards went to New York, and lived in different parts of the state untill '63, when he came west and settled in Fayette county, remaining two years; in '66 he removed to Howard county, and settled at Cresco, and with the exception of three years, spent in Colorado, he has been a resident of this place since; was married in '51, to Catherine McCraigh, a native of Canada, and has three children, John E., George H. and Mary J. He enlisted in '37, in the British service in Canada, and participated in the rebellion of that time, served six months in the ranks, and then was detailed as baker for six months.

Chester Township Library, established June 16, 1874. The total expenditure for books, to present writing, has reached the sum of \$271.75, which amount was raised by taxation. Mr. A. C. Blair was chosen librarian at its inception and continues in the same position.



# CONTENTS.

---

## HISTORY OF IOWA.

	PAGE.
Discovery and occupation.....	9
The original owners.....	18
Pike's expedition.....	21
Indian wars.....	23
Indian Purchaser, Reserves and Treaties.....	32
The Spanish Grants.....	37
The Half-Breed Tract.....	39
Early settlement.....	41
Territorial History.....	49
The Boundary Question.....	54
State Organization.....	59
Growth and Progress.....	65
Public Institutions.....	66
Agricultural College and Farm.....	66
State University.....	67
State Historical Society.....	73
The Penitentiary.....	73

---

## PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Additional Penitentiaries.....	74
Iowa Hospital for the Insane.....	74
Hospital for the Insane.....	75
Iowa College for the Blind.....	76
Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.....	77
Soldiers' Orphans' Home.....	77
State Normal School.....	79
Asylum for Feeble-minded Children.....	79
The Reform School.....	80

	PAGE.
Fish Hatching Establishment.....	81
The Public Lands.....	82
The Public Schools.....	100
Political Record.....	105
Territorial and State Officers.....	105
The Judiciary.....	107
Congressional Representation.....	108
War Record.....	110

## HISTORY OF CHICKASAW COUNTY.

### CHAPTER I.

Introductory.....	119
A contest between the time of the first settlement and the present time.....	119
Location.....	121
Geography.....	121
Principal Products.....	123
Mineral Resources.....	123
Railroad Facilities.....	124

### CHAPTER II.

Organization.....	125
Original Order for Same.....	125
First Election.....	126
First Officers.....	126
Township Organizations.....	127
Succeeding elections.....	128

### CHAPTER III.

First Settlers.....	135
First Births.....	136
First Sermons.....	136
First store.....	136
First Court.....	136
First Marriage License.....	136
First Road.....	137
First Tax Leavy.....	137

	PAGE.
First Naturalization Paper.....	138
First Treasurer's Report.....	139
Two Licenses, but no Marriage.....	140
First Board of Supervisors.....	140
Records from Board of Supervisor's minutes.....	141

---

#### CHAPTER IV.

County Seat Contests.....	149
First Contest.....	150
Indignation meeting.....	156
"Battle of Bailey's Lane".....	160
County Seat Contest of 1880.....	162

---

#### CHAPTER V.

Journalism.....	165
The Printer.....	167
The First Newspaper.....	167
Railroads.....	172
The First Railroad.....	173

---

#### CHAPTER VI.

Educational.....	175
The First School.....	176
Primitive School Report.....	179
First Teachers' Institute.....	180
Compensation of Teachers.....	181
No. and Value of School Houses.....	182
No. of Schools in Sub-districts.....	183
Report of County Superintendent for 1882.....	184

---

#### CHAPTER VII.

Census of Various Dates.....	187
Abstract of Assessment Roll.....	188
Value of Property.....	189

---

#### CHAPTER VIII.

Bradford Township.....	191
------------------------	-----

	PAGE.
Bradford village.....	193
Early Settlers.....	193
First Court House.....	193
First Sermon.....	193
"The Little Brown Church in the Vail".....	193
First Store.....	195
First Saw Mill.....	195
First Hotel.....	195
An Original Oath.....	196
Nashua Township.....	197
First Settlers.....	198
First Store.....	198
First Carpenter, Minister and Shoemaker.....	199
Incorporation of the Town of Nashua.....	199
First Bank, Grist Mill, Agricultural Society and School.....	200
Gongregational Church.....	201
Methodist, Roman Catholic and Episcopal.....	202
School.....	202
Societies.....	203

---

### CHAPTER IX.

New Hampton Township.....	205
Organization.....	205
First, and Succeeding Elections.....	206
Town of New Hampton.....	209
Incorporation.....	209
First Place of Public Entertainment.....	210
First Election of Officers for the Incorporation.....	212
Succeeding elections.....	212
Losing of Miss Hannah Runion.....	215
First School.....	216
Business of New Hampton.....	217
Banks.....	220
Attorneys.....	220
Physicians, Surgeons and Dentists.....	221
First Congregational Church.....	222
Methodist and Catholic Churches.....	224
German Evangelical Luthern St. Paul Congregation.....	225

	PAGE.
German Congregational and Episcopal Societies.....	226
County Poor Farm.....	228
Cemetery Association.....	229
Court House Building.....	229
Chickasaw County Agricultural Societies.....	233
Officers of the Society from year to year.....	241
Life Members of the Society.....	242

---

### CHAPTER X.

Fredericksburg Township.....	245
First Marriage, Birth, Cemetery and School House.....	247
Village of Fredericksburg.....	248
First House, Store, Mill, Factory, Creamery, Brick Yard and Schools.....	248
Names of Successive Principals of Schools.....	249
First Sermon.....	249
First Churches.....	249
Societies.....	251
Cornet Band.....	252
Post Office.....	254
Fire Record.....	254

---

### CHAPTER XI.

Stapleton Township.....	256
First Settlement.....	256
Organization.....	257
Town of Lawler.....	257
First Buildings.....	258
First Merchants.....	258
First School.....	259
Incorporation.....	260
First Mayor.....	260
Subsequent Elections.....	261
Churches.....	263
First Lawyers.....	264
First Post Office.....	265

	PAGE.
Circulating Library.....	265
Societies.....	266
Military.....	266
Fires.....	267
Newspapers.....	271

---

## CHAPTER XII.

Chickasaw Township.....	272
First Election.....	275
First Judge.....	275
Coon Hunting.....	275
First Postmaster.....	276
Saw Mill.....	276
First School.....	276
First Ministers.....	277
First Settlers in Township.....	277
First Child.....	278
Dayton Township.....	278
First Settlers.....	278
"Hunters Home".....	278
First Soil Tilled.....	278
Organization.....	279
Washington Township.....	280
Location.....	280
Timber, Soil, etc.....	280
First Settler.....	280
Organization.....	281
Richland Township.....	281
Early Settlement.....	281
Forest City.....	281
First Brick Edifice.....	282
Church.....	282
Educational.....	282
Deerfield Township.....	283
Location.....	283
Soil.....	283
Wild Animals.....	283
Skeletons.....	283

	PAGE.
First Permanent Settlement.....	284
Organization.....	285
First Office.....	285
Jacksonville.....	286
Location.....	286
Early Settlement.....	286
First House.....	286
First School.....	287
First Preacher.....	287
Utica Township.....	288
Location.....	288
First Settler.....	289
Dresden Township.....	289
Location.....	289
"Little Brown Church".....	290
Political.....	294

---

#### CHAPTER XIII.

War Record.....	295
Action of Board of Supervisors.....	296
Care of Soldiers' Families.....	297
Seventh Infantry.....	301
Thirty-eighth Iowa Infantry.....	307
Fourth Iowa Cavalry.....	310
Roster of Volunteers from Chickasaw County.....	310

---

#### CHAPTER XIV.

Chronological Record of Events.....	316
-------------------------------------	-----

---

### HISTORY OF HOWARD COUNTY.

#### CHAPTER I.

Introductory.....	327
Location.....	328
Surface.....	328
Natural Resources.....	329
First White Man in the County.....	329
Other Settlers.....	330



	PAGE.
"Oregon Grove".....	331
The Finances.....	332
Soil.....	332
The Climate.....	333
Public School System.....	333
First Store.....	334
First School Teacher.....	334
First Church.....	335
First Post Office.....	335
First Male Child Born in the County.....	335
First Marriage.....	335
First Term of Court.....	336
First Hotel.....	336
First Newspaper.....	336

---

## CHAPTER II.

Organization.....	337
First Election.....	338
First Laid Out Road.....	339
Proclamation.....	340
First Tax Rate.....	341
First Circus.....	341
The Finances.....	346
Indian Scares.....	347
Treasurer's Report.....	348
County Offices Removed to Vernon Springs.....	349
Cresco.....	350
Indebtedness of the county.....	351
Poor Farm.....	351
Burglary of the Treasurer's Office.....	351
Arboriculture.....	353
The Auditor Trouble.....	356
County Seat Question.....	356
Court House Burned.....	357
Drowning of Frank Kite.....	358
Action of the Board of Supervisors.....	363
Opening the County Safe.....	363
Settling With Kite's Bondsmen.....	364

	PAGE.
Court House Association.....	365
Tending the Sick Poor.....	365

---

### CHAPTER III.

Election Returns in the County from the Time of its Organization to the Present Time.....	367
---	-----

---

### CHAPTER IV.

County Seat Controversy.....	386
Removal of County Seat to Howard Center.....	388
"Pike's Peak" Gets the County Seat.....	389
County Seat Removed to Cresco.....	391

---

### CHAPTER V.

Railroad.....	394
Proclamation.....	394
No. Miles of Track in the County.....	396
Journalism.....	395
First Newspaper.....	400
An Historical Press.....	401
Howard County Times.....	402

---

### CHAPTER VI.

Poor Fram.....	404
County Building.....	408
The Jail.....	410

---

### CHAPTER VII.

Educational.....	413
Census.....	418

---

### CHAPTER VIII.

Vernon Springs Township.....	421
Vernon Springs Town.....	422
Churches.....	422

	PAGE
Cresco . . . . .	423
Incorporation . . . . .	424
Schools . . . . .	425
Independent School District . . . . .	425
Salaries of Teachers . . . . .	427
Teachers . . . . .	427
Report of Treasurer of Independent School Districts . . . . .	429
Course study . . . . .	432
Religious Denominations . . . . .	435
Societies . . . . .	438
Cresco Driving Park Association . . . . .	441
Banks . . . . .	441
Elevators . . . . .	441
Hotels . . . . .	441
Shipments . . . . .	442

---

#### CHAPTER IX.

Forest City Township . . . . .	444
First School . . . . .	445
First Post Office . . . . .	445
Old Town of Lime Springs . . . . .	445
Frist Mill . . . . .	446
Lime Springs Station . . . . .	447
First Merchants . . . . .	447
First Post Office . . . . .	447
Churches . . . . .	447
School Building . . . . .	447
Incorporation of the Town of Lime Springs Station . . . . .	449
First Officers . . . . .	449
Societies . . . . .	450

---

#### CHAPTER X.

Saratoga Tomnship . . . . .	453
Paris Township . . . . .	454
Afton Township . . . . .	454
Howard Township . . . . .	455
Jamestown Township . . . . .	455
First Settlers . . . . .	456

	PAGE.
First Birth and Mariage.....	457
First Election.....	457
First School.....	457
Early Church Matter.....	457
First Post Office.....	458
Howard Center Township.....	458
First Settlement.....	458
Burning of Thayer's Hotel.....	460
First Post Office.....	460
Organization of Howard Center Township.....	460
First Tax Levy.....	460
First Sunday School.....	461
First Newspaper.....	461
First Marriage.....	461
First Child Born.....	461
Albion Township.....	461
First Church, and Other Societies.....	462
First school.....	463
First Post Office.....	463
First Death.....	463
New Oregon Township.....	463
First Settlement.....	464
First School.....	464
First Church.....	464
The Old Log Church.....	465
Other Churches.....	466
Chester and Oakdale Townships.....	466
Village of Chester.....	468

---

CHAPTER XI.

Taking it Cooly.....	469
Squatter Government.....	470
A Novel Justice.....	470
"Live On No Evil".....	471

---

CHAPTER XII.

War Record.....	473
Action of the Board of Supervisors.....	475

	PAGE.
Third Iowa Infantry.....	477
Ninth Iowa Infantry.....	477
Thirty-Eighth Iowa Infantry.....	478
Third Iowa Battery of Light Artillery.....	479
List of Commissioned Officers.....	487
Roster of Volunteers.....	488

---

#### CHAPTER XIII.

Chronological Events.....	492
---------------------------	-----



# BIOGRAPHIES.

	PAGE.
VERNON SPRINGS.	
Archer, Joseph .....	518
Barnes, A. B. ....	507
Batterham, Joseph .....	507
Barnes, Sylvester .....	508
Barker, W. K. ....	509
Bertrand, E. E. ....	513
Baeker, E. I. ....	516
Baumgartner, A. F. ....	515
Byrnes, Charles .....	517
Bishop, Horace .....	518
Brierley, Wm .....	519
Bentz, C. L. ....	519
Barnes, James .....	519
Clemmer, J. J. ....	521
Davies, T. P. ....	508
Dilworth, J. A. ....	510
Doan, J. G. ....	522
Evringham, B. D. ....	508
Eddy, A. A. ....	522
Field, J. M. ....	509
Farnsworth, John .....	520
Halstead, G. W. ....	509
Hoyt, O. N. ....	512
Kellow, Sr., Wm. ....	509
Kimball, Aaron .....	528
Lowry, J. J. ....	510
Marsh, G. E. ....	510
Miller, Fred .....	511

	PAGE.
Meverden, G.....	511
Mason, J. J.....	512
McCoy, J. M.....	513
McCook, John.....	520
McHugh, R. J.....	521
Morse, George.....	522
McNamara, John.....	522
Mead, W. R.....	525
McHugh, John.....	526
Norton, — A.....	520
Peck, John E.....	514
Patterson, W. H.....	514
Richards, J.....	517
Roche, W. H.....	517
Rivers, A.....	517
Rumsey, Wm.....	518
Swensen, L.....	511
Steinman, John.....	515
Sturgis, John I.....	516
Stradley, John G.....	517
Sayre, Frank.....	519
Stevens, J. B.....	524
Salesbury, J.....	524
Smith, L. E.....	524
Thompson and Johnson Bros.....	520
Upton, J. G.....	516
Wentworth Bros.....	512
Wi.braham, Wm.....	513
Webster, C. F.....	513
Woodcock, L. T.....	521
Willman, S. M.....	523
White, Ransom.....	524
Webber, C. J.....	521

#### FOREST CITY AND HOWARD CENTER.

Anderberg, O. A.....	532
Brown, J. D.....	531
Borthwick, J. F.....	542
Baldwin, J. R.....	547

	PAGE.
Chesebro, Oscar.....	541
Conery, Denis.....	542
Daniels, W. F.....	534
Daws, Thos. ....	542
Dell, J. W.....	542
Daws, W. G.....	542
Drake, George R.....	551
Eldridge, Ira.....	543
Ferrie, Geo. J.....	543
Gorst, Chas. ....	532
Grellier, Thos. ....	543
Glass, Leo.....	543
Garver, D. C.....	543
Gates, Thos. ....	549
Howe, P. C.....	531
Hurley, L.....	533
Hewett, A. P.....	534
Hewett, C. C.....	550
Hawkins, H, C.....	537
Halsveg, Wm. ....	551
Isaac, Richard.....	536
Jones, W. R.....	538
Kelley, Thos. ....	551
Knowlton, A.....	540
Licktieg, John.....	552
Lathrop, Nelson.....	552
Marsh, H. P.....	533
McNally M. L.....	533
McGregor Jas. ....	531
Moulton, N. B....	540
Miller, S. A.....	536
Marande, H. E... ..	545
Marsh, A. E.....	538
Marsh, M. N.....	550
Milward, Joseph.....	552
Mackay, John S.....	552
Miller, John G.....	552
Milz, Katherine.....	552



	PAGE.
Nash, C. P. ....	554
Owens, J. W. ....	553
Offen, B. ....	546
Parkhurst, A. N. ....	547
Roberts, R. J. ....	541
Rowlee, N. S. ....	546
Smith, W. A. ....	546
Shields, Lawrence. ....	546
Shumway, H. R. ....	538
Sanborn, P. C. ....	537
Tibbals, Geo. ....	553
Thayer, Wm. H. ....	546
Thompson N. ....	532
VanNieman, L. H. ....	530
Van Leuven, A. M. ....	539
Van Leuven, Geo. M. ....	547
Van Leuven Jr., Geo. M. ....	548
White Bros. ....	539
White, Mrs. Irene G. ....	544
Woodard, Eli. ....	544
Wanless, O. G. ....	545
Wood, Patrick. ....	545
Woodard, J. W. ....	545
Wanless, P. A. ....	545
Wells, H. H. ....	553
Williams, J. B. ....	537

## ALBION.

Ashley, C. B. ....	572
Bronner, John. ....	575
Bigalk, John. ....	572
DeLang, P. I. ....	575
Dempewolf, J. F. ....	576
Oakley, James. ....	576
Owen, R. H. ....	576
Wells, J. E. ....	575

## JAMESTOWN.

Cutting, C. D. ....	577
---------------------	-----

McCook, Thomas.....	577
---------------------	-----

OAKDALE.

Blither, H. H.....	559
How, G. H.....	558
How, E. D.....	558
Lincoln, F.....	558
Thomson, S. L.....	557

NEW OREGON.

Booth, M.....	563
Blackburn, John.....	563
Converse, S. A.....	563
Durgin, N. S.....	562
Hess, J. G.....	562
Miller, John.....	562
Novak, Thomas.....	561
Pecinovsky J. T.....	561
Shafer, F.....	561
Sovereign F. C.....	560
Wollstein, J. cob.....	560

CHESTER

Blair, A. G.....	567
Cray, Joseph.....	566
Eaton, L. E.....	566
Hubbard, A. G.....	565
Loomis, George E.....	566
Plummer, George M.....	565

PARIS.

Dell, John.....	569
Holster, Geo. W.....	569
Isbell, E. I.....	569
Merry, Mrs. Esther P.....	568
Wessel, John.....	568
Watters, Samuel.....	569

SARATOGA.

Groat, Edgar.....	570
Henning, William.....	570
Miller, Mrs. Elizabeth.....	571

	PAGE.
Mc Kay, Newton.....	571
Weislock Tobias.....	570
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Chester Tcwnship Library.....	580
Gregory, Isaac.....	579
Jackson, Sr., John.....	579

---















